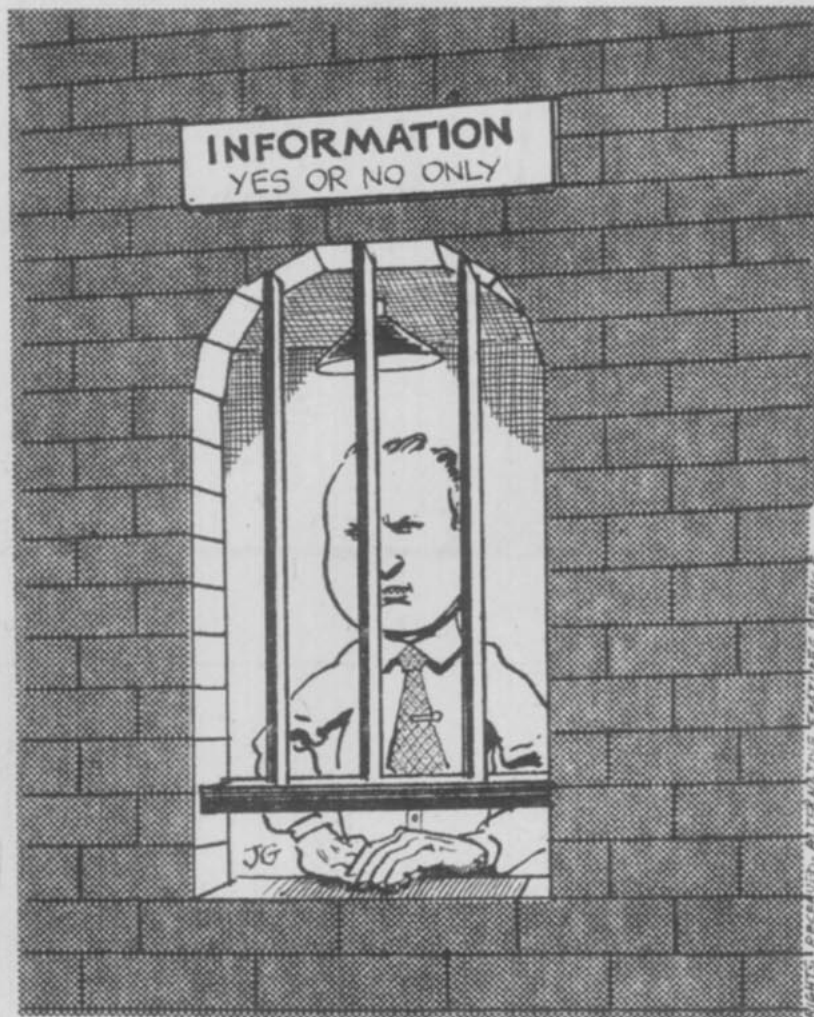


# d.c. gazette

VOL. II NR. 21

AUGUST 9-29 1971

25¢

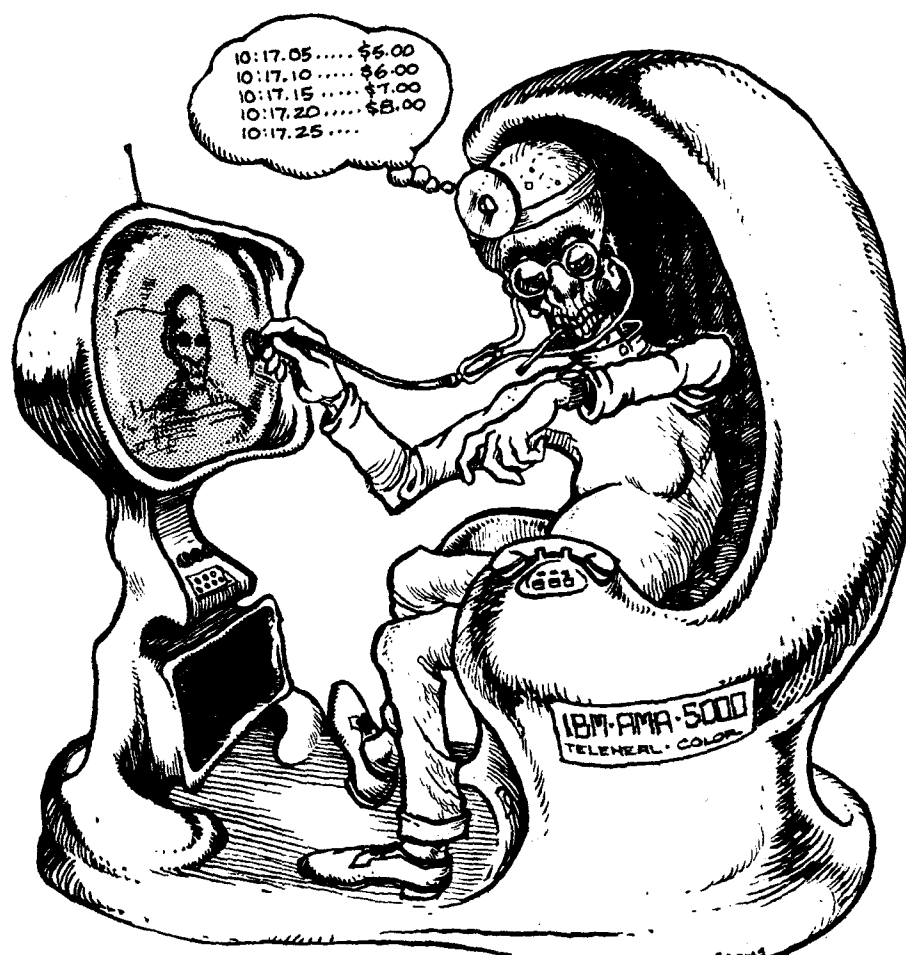


## HEALTH CARE & CAPITOL HILL



## Health care and Capitol Hill

ROSEMARIE MCKINNON  
Medical Committee for Human Rights



Vocations for Social Change

SO far this year 13 proposals for reform of the American health system have surfaced in Washington. This number in itself, coupled with increasing discussion of health issues, serves to indicate a belated, but growing, awareness of the fact that the American health system is in a state of severe crisis, from which it will not emerge without undergoing metamorphosis.

Since 1965 the rate of inflation in the cost of medical care has accelerated sharply. In fact medical prices have been rising twice as fast as the general price levels. The average doctor's fee has risen by a third in the past five years, while hospital prices have risen by 52 per cent.

Uneven distribution of personnel and resources, both geographical and economical, has made the local effects of these overall average price increases still more devastating; thus, while a night in a hospital now costs \$70 at the national average--which is bad enough, in an expensive city it can cost \$100 or more. Some hospitals are public institutions, others are profit-making concerns. Recent evidence collected by Senator Kennedy in his Senate subcommittee hearings on health suggests that both types, freed from any coordinated planning or control, have been duplicating fancy equipment, refusing to share this equipment with other hospitals and covering these costs by inflating patients' bills. One of the more pathetic consequences of this inflation is the large number of Americans who are completely, or partially, cut off financially from receiving adequate medical care, and thus, in the long run, results in a pattern of costly crisis care. Finally, due in large part to the tendency to specialization, care which anyone receives has become fragmented, impersonal, and in many instances, degrading.

The Medical Committee for Human Rights at its national convention in April, decided not to add another bill to the plethora of proposals already awaiting judgment on the Hill, but rather to set up a series of criteria against which all proposals for reform of the health care system should be measured. All the present proposals focus on the financing of health care, a partial approach which is almost certain to perpetuate the present system. The MCHR, by contrast, seeks to draw public attention to the additional need for reform in the delivery of health care. Certain principles should underlie any

system of health care:

(1) Health care should be universal. By this we mean that it should cover all people residing in the U.S. and should be treated as a right, rather than as a privilege; and must be available to all people, regardless of their ability to pay.

(2) Health care should be comprehensive, i. e., it must include all forms of care. It must not exclude drugs, dentistry, mental health care and preventive medicine, which to one extent or another, all of the present proposals exclude.

(3) Health care should be financed by national progressive taxation.

(4) Costs must necessarily be controlled in order to curtail the present run-away inflation; the increased demand a financing mechanism will generate would make such control imperative, and it is likely to involve government regulation of health-related industries.

(5) There should be no coinsurance, deductibles, or other complex formulae, for these become almost incomprehensible, and tend to discourage the seeking of preventive care.

(6) The supply of health care must be expanded and a greater effort made to see that minority groups and women are adequately represented among every category of health care personnel; present imbalances must be eliminated. As part of this effort, there should be more flexibility in educational programs, so that workers can progress, by virtue of courses and on-the-job training, from one job to another; e. g., so that a nurse may become a doctor, an orderly a nurse, etc.

(7) The health delivery system must be reorganized to produce a more efficient allocation of resources among and within geographical areas and cities.

(8) Last, and most important, there should be a much greater degree of public accountability within the health care system, so that those who receive care also have a part in controlling matters of quality, priorities and ethos (e. g. racism), within the health institutions which they use. Health professionals should continue to make professional decisions affecting the health of their patients, but the public should become the ultimate policy-maker in matters of delivery and organization. The consumer must have the formal opportunity to mold the institution to his

needs, and this will only be achieved when provider and consumer share decision-making in the health care system.

### THE NIXON BILL

How do present proposals measure up to these criteria? First, let us examine the Nixon bill. In brief, Nixon proposes at least three different bills: one for the gainfully employed, one for the poor and near-poor and one for the aged. Under the National Health Insurance Partnership Program, the plan for the gainfully employed, medical benefits would be secured by private insurance policies to be taken out by the employer, who would be required to pay the greater part of the cost himself. The remainder of the cost - 35 percent at first and later 25 percent--would be paid by the employee. Under the Family Health Insurance Plan, the plan for the poor and near-poor, those people with incomes under \$5,000 (assuming a family of 4) would have the cost of insurance premiums partially subsidized by the Government. Only those with incomes of less than \$3,000 would pay nothing at all. Medicare would remain, in slightly revised form, for the aged. This fragmentary hodge-podge is topped with an enticing political icing which promises a moon-shot on cancer and on sickle-cell anemia (for the blacks) and token support for health maintenance organizations.

The Nixon proposal is clearly a political document, which aims not to bring about radical amelioration of the present maldistributions and inadequacies of the health care system, but rather to protect the status quo by removing the sting from this period of crisis. He proposes to do this by providing a plan to cover the cost of crisis care. By a complex system of coinsurance and deductibles these three plans contrive to insure that few people will be able to afford any form of preventive treatment or even yearly check-ups, but will be adequately provided for should they ever be hit by a passing truck. It is evident that this is not a plan for reform of the deficiencies in the health care system, but rather a means of selling compulsory "sickness" insurance to the American people. The Nixon plan takes no measures to put a stop to run-a-

(Continued next page)



## "The Nixon bill is not designed to improve the quality and delivery of health care in America"

way inflation in the cost of medical care, but choses instead to discipline the consumer into a new form of "cost consciousness." Clearly, few things were further from the minds of those who designed these bills than that the consumer should participate in the reorganization of health delivery or shape the health providing institutions to his needs. Rather, it is intended that the insurance companies will benefit, and be in a position to influence the shape of the health care system. The Nixon bill is simply a proposal for financing universal insurance in case of catastrophic illness; it is not, and was never meant to be, a bill designed to improve the quality and delivery of health care in America.

### THE AMA PLAN

The AMA "Medicredit" plan for national health insurance provides for federal income tax credits to be awarded to those who voluntarily purchase health insurance from certain approved private companies. Families with incomes of less than \$1,600 a year would receive private health insurance coverage from the government. Those with higher incomes would receive a diminishing tax credit, if health insurance were purchased.

It should be noticed that this plan differs little from the Nixon plan, since both plans propose to finance health care systems through private insurance companies. The only real difference is that the AMA plan is voluntary. There will be no cost control and no new administrative apparatus. In short, the financing of the health system would be entirely divorced from the delivery of health care, and all attempts to reorganize the present system discouraged.

### THE KENNEDY PLAN

Under the Kennedy plan, the government would supplant the present system of private

health insurance by itself offering universal health coverage. This scheme would be financed by employer, employee and government contributions: 50 per cent of revenues would come from general progressive taxation, 36 per cent from a tax on employers, and the remaining 14 per cent from a social security-type tax on wage and salary income of employees and a tax on the self-employed. This plan eliminates all coinsurance and deductibles; patients have no out-of-pocket expenses. Health benefits under this plan would be almost comprehensive, with the exception of limitations on dental coverage, drugs, mental health and nursing home care.

The primary emphasis of this plan remains on the financial rather than the reorganizational aspects of health care, yet it far outstrips the Nixon and AMA proposals in its recognition of the need for reorganization of the health delivery system. To this end the Kennedy plan sets up a Trust Fund which bears the responsibility of preparing a yearly budget to allocate funds to various health regions by means of a formula to reflect economic and demographic changes from year to year. In addition, a "Health Resources Development Account" is to be used to stimulate and assist in the development of comprehensive health services, the education and training of health personnel and the development of new forms of health organization. Fee levels for doctors, drug prices and contracts with hospitals and other health providers are to be established by a yet unwritten set of regulations.

There is much to be said in favor of this bill. Certainly it is preferable by far to the Nixon and AMA proposals. But this is not to suggest that it is a total solution to America's health care crisis. First, there should be an end to the limitations in coverage which this bill proposes. Health care should be not only universal,

but also comprehensive. Second, a guarantee should be written into this bill that doctors will not charge their patients more than the prescribed fee-for-service which the regulations will stipulate. Alternatively, the abolition of the fee-for-service method of payment should be dropped. Third, much of the potential success in controlling costs will depend upon the yet unwritten regulations, which may perhaps have a greater impact upon the shape and ethos of the health system than the bill itself. Consequently, we should know more about the precise form that these regulations will take. Last, and most important, this bill is overly centralized at the national level; as a consequence it does not provide the consumer of health care services with adequate voice in the shaping of policies. The Kennedy bill is the only one of the three major proposals which so much as mentions consumer participation. It goes, however, only so far as to allocate an advisory role on the national and regional boards to representatives of the people who customarily use the health institutions.

The MCHR feels strongly that if the needs of the patient are to be satisfactorily met and his dignity is to be maintained, the consumer of health care services must be permitted to play a decisive role in the shaping of the policies of the institutions which he uses. To this end we would reverse the Kennedy hierarchy of control from the top. We propose that local residents who use a health care institution in their area elect a simple majority of this institution's board of directors, and that these representatives serve as voluntary, non-salaried members. Further, we propose that these local boards elect from among themselves representatives to regional health boards, and that these regional boards in turn elect delegates to a national board. It is only through this, or some similar mechanism, that a solution to the real problems of the health system--control, accountability, accessibility, priorities and responsibility to the community--will be found.

# The vacation quiz

HERE is our 1971 Vacation Quiz designed to test the capacity of Americans to learn their lesson from one year to the next.

(1) If a man leaves home on his vacation at 7 a.m. in an automobile with his wife and three children, and drives for 15 minutes at an average speed of 40 miles an hour before achieving 60 miles an hour on the open road... (a) How far will he have traveled when the first child asks to go to the bathroom? (b) What time will it be when the luggage carrier on top of the car begins to flap? (c) Whose fault was it that nobody left a note for the milkman?

(2) If this is a vacation, why is everyone so tense?

(3) For extra credit, give one remotely defensible reason why you expected family car travel to be any less traumatic this year than it was last year.

(4) List five good reasons, or 10 remotely adequate reasons, not to stop at the next reptile exhibit.

(5) Compare the relative distraction of an old-fashioned highway cluttered with commercial billboards and a new interstate route cluttered with huge, sterile, green signs directing you to places you don't want to go.

(6) Now that mankind has split the atom, explored outer space and air-conditioned the station wagon, name one improvement in the past 50 years in the way road maps are folded.

(7) Discuss briefly the economy not to mention the morality, of a country in which a vending machine in a service station can charge 25 cents for a Coca-Cola.

(8) If a family of five traveling in a car consumes eight soft drinks, one large bag of pretzels, two pounds of grapes, half a pound of peppermints, 24 peanut-butter crackers and three moon pies between breakfast and noon, how can that same family spend \$14.50 for lunch at a Howard Johnson's?

## McDOWELL PAPERS

(9) If you pass up three consecutive motels in the hope of finding one with a better swimming pool, what are the odds that the next 12 motels will have no vacancy and that you will ultimately take refuge in a motel that still advertises "steam heat" but has no pool?

(10) Rank the following vacation annoyances in order: (a) bears in national parks; (b) people in national parks; (c) motor boats; (d) water-skiers; (e) the children of the couple in the next cottage; (f) car-top luggage carriers; (g) mosquitoes; (h) hurricanes; (i) social directors; (j) the American plan; (k) loose pop bottles in the car; (l) stinging nettles; (m) a broken fan belt that cannot be duplicated by any of the 375 new fan belts hanging on the wall of the service station behind the grease rack; (n) skunks; (o)

chiggers; (p) motorbikes; (q) the neighboring camper whose Coleman lantern would illuminate in blinding white light the entire outfield at Yankee Stadium; (r) toll booths; (s) the plumber who cannot come to your vacation cottage because he is on vacation; (t) rain; (u) any portable radio in the possession of any person between the ages of 9 and 24.

(Richmond Times-Dispatch)

CHARLES McDOWELL Jr.



**d.c. gazette**

109 8th St. NE Wash. DC 20002

543-5850

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The DC Gazette is published biweekly (24 issues a year) except during the summer when publication varies. Available by mail at \$6 a year. Single copies: 25¢ each. Ten or more copies: 1¢ each. Twenty-five or more copies: 10¢ each.

Underground Press, Liberation News Service, College Press Service, Alternative Features Service



# Daniel Ellsberg on the future of the war

DANIEL Ellsberg, leaker of the Pentagon papers, was in Minnesota early this year to testify at the trial of two opponents of the war in Indochina. While there he had a conversation with a number of movement people, which was recorded and recently published by Freeway, an underground paper in Duluth. In the light of subsequent events, this transcript is an extraordinary document and should, despite roughness stemming from the conversational style, be read carefully.

...I still have some contact with them (former colleagues in government) and they have complicated my life a great deal in the last year; because if I had not been talking to them I would have been willing to believe what most people in this country believe, and that is that Nixon, whether he likes it or not, is bowing to political realities and getting out of Vietnam.

There's the Stuart Alsop theory, in his columns in *Newsweek*, that Nixon is carrying out an enormous strategic retreat. 'He's getting out,' Alsop hints sometimes, 'totally. Those things you may have heard, that thunder in the background, is an occasional parting shot in what is basically a retreat. And don't worry about his threats, about escalation and so forth --that's just rhetoric.'

I've found over the last year that this is what most people in the country want to believe; and although it contradicts what Nixon has been saying more than most people seem to realize, that doesn't make it incredible, because, as we know, who believes in what a president says?

He says he is going to stay in for a just peace; and he will not be humiliated. He will not accept a defeat; he will keep as many troops there as necessary, he says, and if they are endangered he will not hesitate to take strong and effective measures: "See what I did in Cambodia, see what I did last week..." He tells us all this, but people don't necessarily have to believe that--"That's just the president talking to the public."

So, unfortunately, I've had the pressure put on me. The people whom I trust, who were working for Henry Kissinger, and other people in (the Departments of) State and Defense, were telling me "Believe the President," and they would say, at that time, "I can't tell you why, I can't tell you the details, but when he says he's willing to escalate, believe him." And they said this before Cambodia, and they said this before this last (POW) raid.

I'll give you what I am now perfectly convinced--and have a good deal of evidence--is the Nixon strategy right now. I think that Nixon,

like the four presidents before him, is determined not to be in office when Saigon falls to communism. And he is also determined, if possible to stay in office until 1976.

Those two requirements mean to him that he cannot withdraw all troops or anything like all troops from Vietnam. He can reduce troops, because we had far more troops there than we needed to hold onto Vietnam. The extra troops were being used in a vain attempt to do the trick, to kill enough of the other side to cause them to surrender. We've given up on that. Just to hold on to Vietnam, he had several hundred thousand more troops than he needed; so this gave him people to throw to the wolves, in effect to throw off the sled when the political wolves got on his heels. And he's been dealing these out now, as needed.

But his plan is, first, to keep a hundred or two hundred thousand troops in Vietnam, indefinitely. He would like to get it down to fifty thousand. That's conceivable, but unlikely.

So it involves the presence in Vietnam of a hundred to two hundred thousand troops, doing logistics work, transportation, intelligence, communications, and above all, support to air operations, and including U.S. helicopter operations. 50 caliber armed helicopter operations, which already cause most of the Vietnamese casualties.

To keep those troops in the country, to make that acceptable to the American public, you have to keep casualties down. And to do this he plans not only to get them out of combat areas, but to threaten the North Vietnamese that if they should cause combat casualties at an excessive rate, or embarrass him politically by attacking hard, whether they succeeded or not, or by taking over too much of the country, he will destroy North Vietnam.

So a deterrent threat of bombing is the second pillar of the strategy, of what he calls 'Vietnamization.' And in the beginning it was an unspoken promise, which he has more and more made an explicit promise, and now completely explicit.

Third, why did he expect that this threat would deter the other side when past bombing

did not? And the answer is, in his mind, first, it's a bigger threat than the Democrats made.

He has criticized the Democrats for small indecisive escalation; and what he has in mind, ultimately, is such things as the mining of Haiphong, the destruction of Hanoi and Haiphong, unrestricted bombing, probably including destroying the dikes--just a very massive bombing of North Vietnam, which is what I mean by burning North Vietnam to the ground.

The urban destruction of North Vietnam could be far greater than it ever was before. He thinks that will make it effective...

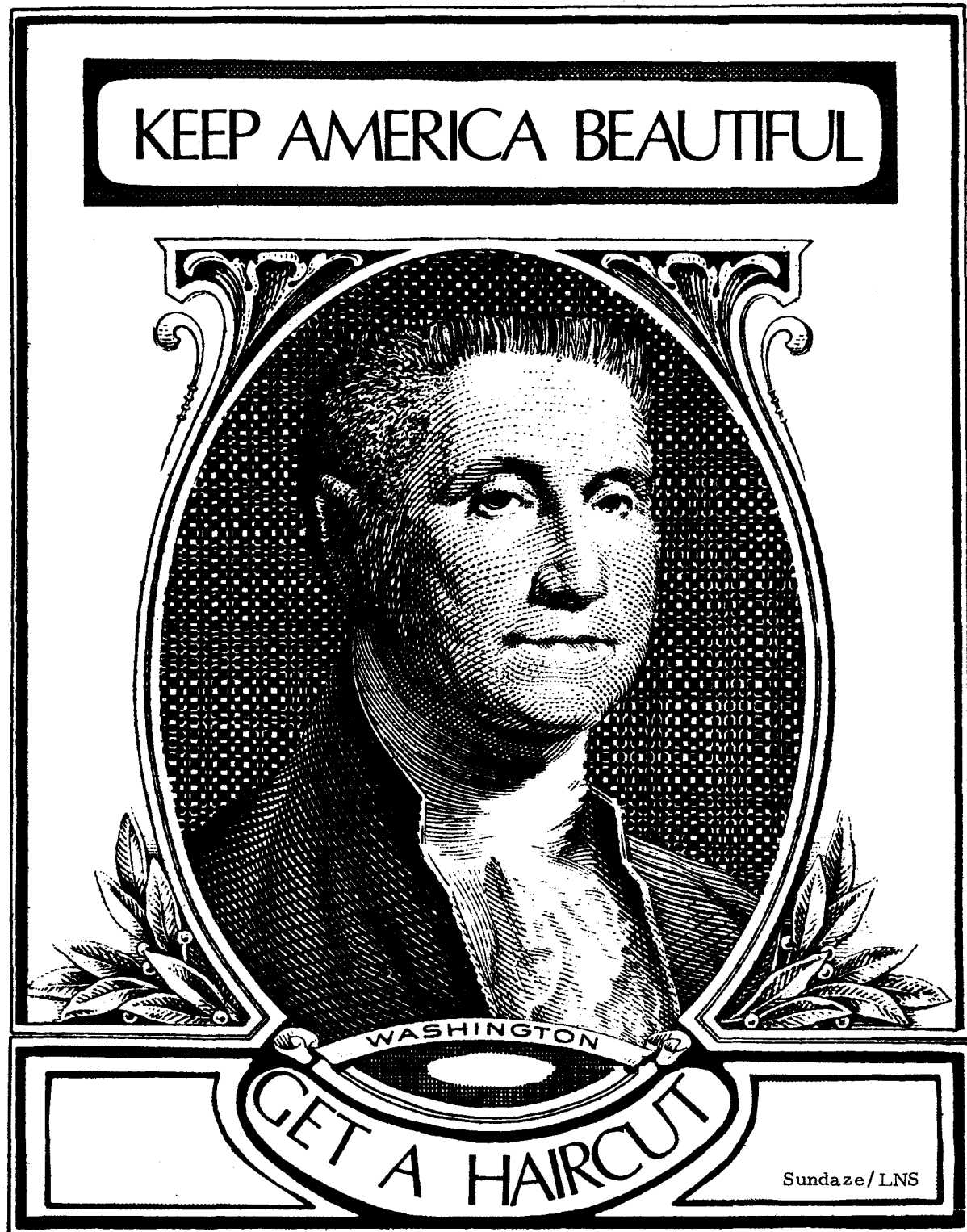
And the other thing is, he will demonstrate that he is willing to do it. He'll make it credible by occasional large demonstrations, not only that he is willing to do it, but that he can get away with it domestically. He says to himself, "They are counting on domestic unrest, or congressional dissent keeping me from doing this. I will show them that I can do this and manage it in such a way that I don't get major dissent, or that I can ride it out."

That's the major outline for the strategy, carrying him at least to '72.

Looking further ahead, he probably does have the hope that by blocking the North Vietnamese long enough, threatening them that if they attack--they can't attack, because if they did they'd get burned out--they'd finally tire and make some very sweeping concessions which we could perhaps accept...

He has one premise there that may well be right. And that premise is that the American public cares mostly about U.S. casualties, and by reducing those he has the major aspect of dissent. And the American public does not care about bombing and does not care about North Vietnamese casualties or South Vietnamese casualties, or Laotian, or Cambodian casualties or refugees...

He and Kissinger believe that the reaction to Cambodia was a reaction first to the Kent State students and second to the troops in Cambodia. Specifically, that students were mainly concerned about Kent State and adults mainly about the troops... If he could do without shooting white students next time, and if he keeps





# "I could imagine that Nixon has in his mind that his gift to history will be that he will restore to the American arsenal the threat of nuclear weapons"

American troops out of it, he could get away with a lot. The POW raid and the bombing (and the Laos invasion) have probably persuaded him he is right.

The other aspect though is that his bet on the North Vietnamese is almost surely wrong. In fact it's such a stupid mistake that one could hardly imagine how a U.S. President could make that mistake. But all you imagine is that he is not better than the four presidents who preceded him, that they all made that mistake. They all made that assumption: everybody has a breaking point, these people too, etc., etc., which is not a good assumption.

The people who are expert on North Vietnam and follow what they are saying and are in contact with them believe it overwhelmingly likely that the North Vietnamese will challenge it. Especially when they realize his intent to keep troops there, which they probably already have by now.

The implication of all this is that the war is not over. And that expansion is likely, very likely. And it will take the form of continued, heavy Indo-Chinese casualties, which have never reduced actually...Increased casualties, if anything, and increased bombing, very increased bombing.

Now, what to do about this? Most of the people who've been telling me this say the only thing that can be done, basically, given the attitude of the public, is to get rid of Nixon in '72. And that may be true. It certainly is the most likely way, without at all being a guarantee... On the other hand, the same people believe premises that I just told you, that have the implication that North Vietnam is likely to be destroyed before November of '72, or before January of '73. And if you're very concerned about that, which I am, then the election is not an answer...

(I was talking) with Harrison Salisbury, who's editing the op-ed page, the page opposite the ed page in the New York Times, last week. He said--and I have now one last turn of the screw here--he not only believes I was correct in this prediction of the future, but that he has believed for a long time, on the basis of his personal knowledge of Nixon, that Nixon believes that he

wants, and in fact believes he must have to get through the next election, a crisis like the Cuban (missile) crisis--to win the way Kennedy won. Not necessarily a nuclear crisis, but a major power confrontation, so that he could show once and for all (that he has) balls or something...And that he will win the political influence, and the diplomatic influence...He feels he needs that before '72...

Finally, the possibility of nuclear weapons comes in the following ways...Some of you may have seen a column by James Reston that said this president will use nuclear weapons-- dash, underline, any weapons--to protect American

troops if necessary. The JCS (Joint Chiefs of Staff) would probably feel that was the best offer they'd heard from a president since Dulles under Eisenhower and Nixon, who was associated with that policy...again, it would probably fail to deter, ultimately.

Nixon could feel that having made the threat of that...that to protect his credibility he'd have to carry it out. In fact, I could imagine that Nixon, this president--and this makes him, I think, the most dangerous president that we may have had of the last five--has in his mind that his gift to history will be that he will restore to the American arsenal the threat of nuclear weapons, the power of that threat.

And what it will take to restore it is an effective use of nuclear weapons, probably a demonstrative kind of clean airburst, small, tactical nuclear weapon on an unpopulated area or something. But a precedent that would give him back the threat.

If that is so, he is the most dangerous man in the world. He probably is anyway. But in historic terms this would be a great step upward...

QUESTION: Hasn't he been pledged to non-first use?

RESPONSE: No... You think so... a lot of people think so... No. As a matter of fact, it has been put to Henry Kissinger several times in this administration: "Are you not willing to give a no-first-use pledge for Vietnam?"

And he has said "No, we will not do that."

QUESTIONER: Couple that with a massive rounding up of radicals in major cities of the country.

ELLSBERG: I think he'd be prepared--that's by the way the last thing mentioned. The... This ought to cheer you up (laughter)... The--that is--I think that they would not do such again, any kind of major escalation, without preparation of a kind that they did not have with Cambodia, both to keep the thing in hand, and, if anything, to exploit it with a really major Canadian type, if not Greek type capability for keeping things in hand.

And I presume that the planning for this is going on now, as contingency planning.

## VOUS FAITES PARTIE OU BIEN DE LA SOLUTION OU BIEN DU PROBLÈME

MAINMISE



BY ROBERT WOLF

THE U.S. Poseidon sub can launch 116 missiles. But the Soviet Union has only about 60 cities with a population of more than 100,000 (which is about the size of Kenosha, Wisconsin.) Yet we're to build 30 more of these subs.

IF YOU SOMETIMES suspect that some New York Times stories have been written by reporters who were on the nod at their typewriters, you can rest assured. The Times conducts a regular check of its employees' urine to detect drug use.

APPARENTLY the Weatherpeople are less corrupt than the government hoped. After the Capitol bombing, a reward of \$100,000 was offered for information leading to the perpetrators. It's gone unclaimed.

THE ADMINISTRATION intends to pay some Middle Eastern countries not to grow poppies. Before long, there may be a suggestion that it be extended to marijuana. There are an estimated 15,000 people in Lebanon, for instance, who make their living growing the \$5 million pot crop. It is rumored some of the nation's members of Parliament are among them. Maybe some conservative Congressman will eventually suggest we keep the subsidy money in the U.S. and just pay Americans not to smoke pot.

IN HIGHLAND PARK, Illinois, high school officials forbade students to display affection in public, saying it was "in poor taste." They added: "This is an educational institution, not a love-in." No doubt after the lecture the kids were sent to the English Lit class to read Blake. Something like, "Children of the future age/ Reading this indignant page/Know that in a former time/ Love! sweet love! was thought a crime."

SUSAN SONTAG: "Someone who has enjoyed a reprieve, however brief, from the inhibition on love and trust this society enforces is never the same again."

ARE YOU TRADING with the enemy? The Pentagon suppliers -- who make bomb parts, herbicides, rocket propellants, torpedoes, missile systems, surveillance equipment and shell fuses -- are also making products they sell to you. A brief list:

Eastman: film, copiers and supplies  
Dow: Saran Wrap, Corningware  
IT&T: Avis Rent-a-Car, Wonderbread/  
Hostess, Morton Foods  
Textron: Talon Zippers, Speidel watch bands, Shaeffer pens.  
Bulova: watches  
Dupont: Teflon, Orlon, Dacron, Mylar, Lycra, Cantreco  
Ling-Temko-Vought: Braniff Airways, Wilson sporting goods  
AMF: Voit sport goods, Harley-Davidson motorcycles  
GE: refrigerators to stereos  
Singer: vacuums to furniture  
Westinghouse: stoves to appliances  
Motorola: televisions to tape recorders  
Ford: Philco and Autolite products  
Pan Am: Intercontinental Hotels and air tours.

A WRITER CONNECTED with Einstein College of Medicine in New York has advised that barbituates should not be taken with birth control pills. They're apt to eat up estrogens and the result could be an unwanted (if sedate) pregnancy.

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# DC NEWS

## What they mean when they say

ANN BROWN



Excerpts from a statement by Ms. Ann Brown, Chairman, Consumer Affairs Committee of the D.C. Democratic Central Committee given recently before a Congressional committee hearing.

PROBLEMS of sanitation in the D.C. supermarkets were revealed to us not only from the unorganized grumblings of consumers but through the results of a survey we did in March and April of 1970. This investigation concerned the problem of the dates after which perishable food products cannot be sold in supermarkets. Most of these dates were in a code, which neither the housewife nor many of the supermarket personnel could understand. After breaking the codes, we discovered that there was much out-of-date food being sold in the District supermarkets. The responses to our questions of what was done with out-of-date meat were horrifying. I quote from that report, "There is little unanimity among meat personnel as to their (referring to meat) proper shelf life... When survey teams inquired into the shelf life they were told pork was good for 2 days after it was packaged, or pork was good for 3 days after it was packaged, or pork was good for up to 4 days after it was packaged..." for ground meat, one survey team was told that, "It is good for three days after it is packaged; when the color turns the manager knows it is bad--then it goes on sale."

"One manager, referring to all types of meat, stated that he daily looks at the meat and pulls whatever does not look good. When his attention was called to some greenish tinted meat, he admitted to not having inspected the meat that day. This same manager stated that he did not reduce the price of ground beef--if he thinks it is bad he pulls it out of the case, re-works it, and re-packages it. 'If it's too bad, he throws it away.'"

One surveyor was told that poultry was removed from the shelf when it begins to smell, or when it turns yellow or reddish, or when growths appear.

This report goes on to recommend that the practice of coding be abolished in favor of open dates, and concludes:

"The staleness of perishable foods--particularly meats and dairy products--concerns not just the quality and taste of these products, but health of adults and children. The abuses uncovered in this survey therefore endanger the health of District residents through the city."

Giant Foods, Inc., and Safeway Stores, Inc., have now instituted in Washington, D.C. supermarkets open dating practices. The Federal Trade Commission is in the process of considering our petition on open dating and other supermarket practices throughout the country are trying open dating. A bill is before the Congress to require open dates on perishable foods.

But complaints about local sanitary conditions continued to come in. So, we decided to conduct further investigations into sanitary conditions and services in District supermarkets with emphasis on comparison between inner-city supermarkets and what we refer to as "outer-city" supermarkets. Our committee enlisted the enthusiastic help of a group of George Washington University undergraduates, each of

whom worked on the survey as their major project for a sociology course. They became so enthused, however, that they devoted much more time and energy than the course required, and several students have continued working with us.

On March 18, 1971, we conducted a preliminary run-thru survey. The indications from this survey were that in many areas there exists in D.C. supermarkets a general lack of sanitation which could pose a direct threat to the health of the consumer. We then reworked the survey and retained the surveyors so that the survey was as accurate and the surveyors as impartial as possible. On April 23, 1971, the full survey was conducted. A team of surveyors went to each of 27 supermarkets carefully chosen to represent all economic and geographic levels in the city. Only stores of the Safeway, Giant and A & P chains were surveyed.

After completing the survey each of the teams swore to the accuracy of its findings before a notary public. In addition to the results of the survey, we have based our conclusions on personal interviews with Robert N. Beck and Arnold K. Clark of the Field Services Division of the District of Columbia Bureau of Food and Drugs; and Kenneth G. Hayden, Acting Chief of the Weights, Measures and Market Branch of the Bureau of Building, Housing and Zoning. These gentlemen were very courteous and helpful to us, as were supermarket management and employees--in most cases. In one instance a manager refused to answer our questions and in another case we were politely kicked out of a store with our survey half finished--but you can't win them all!

Our intention was not to give a complete rating, as Mr. Clark of Food & Drug might, but to act the role of the super-alert consumer. We did not pry behind counters or check the cutting board in the meat department. We simply followed the route through the supermarket that any ordinary shopper would follow. In any ratings, however, we took into account certain

variables, such as age and size of the store.

We obtained the exact age of each store so that the mere fact that a store was old, crowded or small, in itself, did not bring down its rating.

Our over-all conclusion is that many supermarkets in the District of Columbia maintain various unsanitary conditions and the handling of food in these supermarkets may pose a health threat to the consumer. This fact holds true for supermarkets in the city as a whole, but we also found that as the economic level of the neighborhood decreased, the level of cleanliness also decreased. Thus, supermarkets in the inner-city were generally in worse shape than those in more affluent neighborhoods.

The distressing fact our survey uncovered is that 45% or almost half, of the supermarkets we surveyed of the three largest chains had too many unacceptable sanitary conditions to merit a rating. When these figures are further broken down, over half, or 55%, of the supermarkets we surveyed in the inner-city have unacceptable conditions.

The responses to our question, "What becomes of out-of-date meat?", indicate it is still the most glaring health hazard. Despite open-dating policies of Giant and Safeway, we could find out-of-date meat with little effort. In 59% of the supermarkets inspected, surveyors found out-of-date meat, including beef, pork, chicken livers, bologna and spare ribs. Supermarket personnel fail to follow their own dates in removing food from the shelves. Furthermore, within a supermarket chain there is no overall policy on the part of the meat department employees about what becomes of out-of-date meat. Management may have a policy at its corporate headquarters, but it hasn't filtered down to the day-to-day practice of many employees.

In some cases meat is marked down and put in a special section--fine! Or it is simply thrown away--Good! But one butcher at Giant told us the out-of-date meat is reground and put back in the counter with the ground beef, or used

### The highway lobby's Mod Squad

A BLACK public relations firm, New Wave Communications, has been hired as a mod squad subcontractor for the Department of Transportation to rally support for the city's freeway plans. New Wave, which has done PR for SCLC, Walter Fauntroy, Pride and others, is to conduct a survey and hold community meetings that will be used to back up the planning of the highwaymen. The original version of the survey contained questions based on the premise that the freeways were coming and offering a variety of alternative ways of responding to them. The use of a black PR firm is in line with the new strategy of the Department of Transportation for handling citizen discontent over freeways. This strategy was outlined in a DOT report that was inserted into the Congressional Record (H 10820, Nov. 25, 1970) by Rep. Sam Stratton. Other elements of the strategy include establishing a citizen front group that would be used to give the illusion of public support of more freeways.

There are also indications that the city is moving to resurrect an uptown route for the North Leg freeway, one that would take it through Shaw using a depressed route. This route would be sold to local business interests on the grounds that it would be a boulevard that would make the area more attractive. It is expected that New Wave would be used to procure business support for the Shaw Ditch.

Citizen groups are mobilizing to deal with the anticipated new moves concerning the freeways. If interested in aiding in the next phase of the anti-freeway struggle, contact Sam Abbott at 296-4350 days or 585-8890 nights.



## 'Then he rewraps and redates the meat and puts it back at the regular price'

to stuff the peppers, or to make meatloaf. There is no special marking to notify the consumer of this. Another Giant meat department employee answered that old pork is rewrapped and put back without special marking, or tossed out, depending upon how it looks. At an A & P we were told they make hamburger of out-of-date beef--no special markings, however. At four Safeways we were told if the meat looks good it is rewrapped with no special markings. Another butcher told us he cuts off the browned part of the roast, regrinds it and puts it in the hamburger. Then he rewraps and redates the meat and puts it back at regular price. Another simply said, "We change the date." Here is the old ploy of determining shelf life not by pre-existing hard and fast standards, but on the subjective appraisal of individual meat managers--managers who may be more concerned about their bonuses than the health of the consumer. If the old meat, as we are told, is reground, rewrapped, redated or recut without the consumer's knowledge, the open date is meaningless. The housewife is serving older meat than she realizes to her family; or she may unwittingly keep this meat in her refrigerator for too long a time before eating it. In either case, one's chances of being sickened by spoiled meat are ever present.

There is even a problem involving putting reduced meat on special sale. True, no attempt is made to conceal from the customer that the meat is out-of-date; but a meat manager told us, and I quote, "Old meat is reduced in a special section, and after one day is thrown out. Some of the reduced meat is so terrible that even I wouldn't eat it." This is a problem with reduced canned goods also. Consumers see dented cans and think they're getting a bargain, but it may be a bargain in botulism! When we directly asked Mr. Hayden, of Weights & Measures, if he would buy damaged cans on sale at a reduced price, he shook his head vigorously and said, "I wouldn't buy it."

Other problems uncovered in meat departments involve sloppy leaking packages, with bloody watery drippings. In several instances meat was displayed above the safety lines. This is too close to the fluorescent lights and can speed spoilage. There is also a major problem with pre-packaged chill-pak chicken. If the chicken gets warm, there is a weight loss of moisture. The consumer gets short-weighted if the meat is not reweighed and rewrapped at the individual store. But those same chickens that can get warm and lose moisture will be re-chilled in the store's chicken section--and they will get warm again when the customer takes them home, and possibly refreezes them in her home freezer. This is a potentially dangerous situation.

The problem of dirty floors in inner-city supermarkets has been attacked primarily on esthetic grounds. However, a dirty floor is symptomatic of a general sloppiness which could endanger health. If a store is dirty in plain view of the consumer what is it like in the food-handling area she cannot see? Furthermore, we believe that filthy floors are, in themselves, a health hazard. Only 52% of the stores surveyed were considered clean enough to rate a "GOOD" on their floors by our surveyors. In the supermarkets surveyors especially noted the extremely dirty floors around the fruits and vegetables. "Sloppy and ugly" wrote one surveyor. It is important to mention that our survey did not find a much greater number of inner-city floors to be dirtier than outer-city floors. In fact, even a carpeted floor in a plush N. W. supermarket was strewn with old produce.

Two areas of the supermarkets with the most flagrant abuses are refrigerator and freezer sections. We were told by Mr. Beck and Mr. Clark, of D. C. Food & Drug, that frozen food should be kept at not more than 0°F. and refrigerated food at not more than 45°F. It is an acknowledged health hazard for refrigerated foods to get warm or for frozen foods to be defrosted and refrozen. Many supermarkets have thermometers attached to their frozen food or refrigerated food bins. Many of these must be for decoration. In 22 separate instances, these thermometers were either broken, illegible or impossible to discover short of climbing inside the bin. The District law does not require these thermometers either to be present or to be in

working order. When we asked supermarket personnel how they know if the cases held the proper temperature with broken thermometers, we were answered, in effect, that they checked them with their own thermometers. However, in our survey we discovered 7 working thermometers in freezer sections that registered above zero. We found two different bins of food that were defrosting for at least one hour in each of two different supermarkets. We found 10 separate abuses that included sloppy packages that had been leaking, frozen food stacked above the marked safety line (in one store as much as a foot above the safety line), and open boxes of frozen food (including an entire section of macaroni and cheese). In four supermarkets surveyors noted dirty bins and gratings, one specifically caked with old spilt egg. Each of two stores had a crate full of packages of margarine sitting outside the refrigerator section for the whole time the surveyors were in the stores. A case of cartons of eggs was sitting out of the refrigerator section in a third store. In another store many 1 lb. cartons of butter were stacked above the safety line and many of the cartons were open. Finally there was one dairy bin in each of two different supermarkets with holes gouged out of the sides.

One final area of worst offenses are the restrooms in supermarkets. District of Columbia Health Services do not require restrooms to be available to the public. However, they are required for employees, and customers can and do use them in an emergency. These restrooms often serve not only as bathrooms for employees but as their changing rooms and lounge. Conditions in restrooms are part of the quarterly report by the sanitarians of the D.C. Health Services Administration. Monstrous is the word we would use to describe most of the 21 restrooms to which we were admitted. Only five received a passing grade; sixteen restrooms went from bad to worse. "Miserable", wrote one surveyor in her comments. "Ugh", wrote another. No towels, toilet paper, soap, improper ventilation or filth were the rule. One

access area to a restroom (and incidentally to a fire exit) was so littered with trash and refuse that it was practically impassable. Employees who do not have use of proper facilities, in turn, handle the food we buy and eat.

In this relatively small sampling of supermarkets our committee turned up many serious health hazards. We do not think it is coincidental that we stumbled on these problems in the selected supermarkets. We think this indicates a city-wide problem, not only in the inner-city, although they bear a somewhat larger part of the burden.

The residents of the District, especially in the inner-city, have been surveyed and questioned and studied and "hearing" to death. For once we need action. The business community has proven itself contemptuous of the public it is supposed to serve. Voluntary compliance just doesn't exist. Agencies of the District Government have been lax, or understaffed or underfunded. We cannot depend on the business establishments to police themselves. Supermarket management, in this respect, has been beholden only to its stockholders and has been ruled only by the profit motive. The same corporate managements that give bread to the Poor People's Campaign or train Lorton inmates, is also selling food in a manner that is potentially hazardous to the health of its customers.

The District of Columbia city government must provide its citizens with the strongest kind of governmental protection--that is, a fully staffed and funded inspection department with adequate enforcement powers. We consumers need a workable system of open dating, with legal standards set for shelf life of the various perishable products. We need to compel supermarkets to maintain working legible thermometers on their freezer and refrigerator sections. We need stringent laws in regard to resale of out-of-date meat and/or damaged canned goods. We need a consumer protection agency--a highly visible place where consumers can go with their complaints. But, most of all, we recommend posting the inspection report ratings of supermarkets, as well as restaurants, in a front window in the store. The consumer will then have the information which is his right. He can then penalize the offending supermarket--he simply won't shop there!

## LETTERS

### The People's Fund

NO political movement in history ever survived and grew without lines of support and communication with broad sectors of the population. The same is true today in Washington. There are political and service organizations in many areas of Washington that are either striking at the basis of social problems or providing much needed services that are not otherwise available. These groups need money and have difficulty raising it. There are also many people who would like to support these efforts but who cannot make large contributions and are not sure where to put their money. Some kind of mechanism is needed to raise money and to distribute it.

The United Giver's Fund is an inadequate mechanism for a variety of reasons. It is not democratically operated. It funds tradition minded social service agencies that deal only with the symptoms of social problems rather than supporting innovative approaches that attempt to strike at the roots of the problems. Its function is to hold this society together rather than to help in the push towards a better, radically restructured, society. It discriminates against new groups. It does not fund groups that are politically active in pressuring for meaningful social change.

The time has come for a fund-raising group that is committed to basic social change. That group is the People's Fund.

The People's Fund is an alternative to charity and a support for our political move-

ment. It is being designed to help groups press social, political, and economic institutions either to serve the people or to get out of the way so that new organizations can insure basic rights, welfare, and dignity to all people in Washington. So far, the People's Fund has been conceived to raise money and to provide it to local groups that meet either or both of two general criteria: (1) They are organizing oppressed and exploited people to overcome their oppression or (2) they are providing social services that are not otherwise available and that point out the shortcomings of present social service institutions. Recipient groups would be those demonstrating a broad base of support and participation by their constituencies. The People's Fund would make no attempt to either initiate or influence the practice of recipient groups; money would be given with no strings attached.

The People's Fund is now in its formative stages. One staff person has been hired to help get it off the ground. The first priority is to launch a fundraising drive which we anticipate will begin in the early fall and last about two months.

A similar experiment has proved successful in Philadelphia. Last year they raised \$12,000 and funded eight groups there, among them, a Women's Liberation Center, Welfare Rights Organization, the Black Panther Party, Philadelphia Resistance, a Consumer's Protection Association, and others.

Contributions to the People's Fund will not be tax deductible. In this way, the People's Fund will have the independence to inform the public on basic social issues with candor rather than to play as if they were apolitical and would be able to lend its support to groups that need it for their political program rather than those which satisfy the criteria of the Internal Revenue Service.

The People's Fund needs people now with energy and insight to act together to change



what they do not like, and to help in the construction of a society of free and healthy people rather than one dominated by giant and sluggish organizations. If you are interested in working on the Fund, you may come to meetings of the interim working committee which are held every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at 1856 19th St., NW.

Sharon Rose  
Jim Weeks

## A new library director

THE critical situation existing at the District of Columbia Public Library has been brought to our attention at this Conference. It was reported to us that although the past Director announced his intentions to retire in April, 1970, a representative Search Committee was not formed until January, 1971; that the position was not advertised in the professional journals until June; that there has been no active national recruiting for qualified candidates, and that no representative has attended the annual conferences either last year or this year to recruit and interview candidates.

This Council agrees that the extended delay has critically affected vital service to D.C.'s citizens; that it has delayed active and imaginative program planning for the future; that it has severely affected staff morale; and that it has hampered needed experimental efforts vital in providing the citizenry of D.C. with the information, progress and services it deserves.

In an effort to expedite the selection of a new Director by bringing this issue to the attention of the public and to demonstrate the nationwide concern felt among socially aware librarians on this issue, the Action Council of the Social Responsibilities Roundtable of the American Library Association has unanimously endorsed this petition which is currently being circulated in the District communities and among the D.C. library staff:

"The District of Columbia Public Library has been without a Director for one year. Because of the urgency of the situation, a small group of staff and community members are circulating a petition calling for the appointment of a new Director who:

1. has proven experience in offering library service to the undereducated and underserved portion of the community, particularly in a large city setting

2. is sensitive to staff needs as well as community needs, and whose policies reflect his/her concern
3. is not afraid to critically examine the status quo, and who has the courage to experiment in new ways of delivering library service
4. is able to select capable staff and who can delegate authority to them in order to save his/her energies and time for creative leadership
5. knows how to encourage initiative and utilize the potential and capacities of the staff
6. lives in the District of Columbia

"In this city and at this time in history, we believe that a Black candidate who meets the above criteria should be selected for the following reasons:

(a) The District population is 75% Black; its school population is 95% Black; its key officials are Black; the underserved are primarily Black. Communication with each of these groups is necessary, and would be made more possible through a Black Director.

(b) We believe that management and budgeting experience should not be the first considerations; these talents can be hired. Warmth, sympathy, sensitivity, success in dealing with people, and a rapport with the community are the most important qualifications in providing future leadership."

Bob Croneberger  
Action Council Member  
Detroit, Michigan

## Whatever happened to the Passow Report?

LARRY CUBAN

WHEN the new \$3 million Metropolitan Police academy at Blue Plains recently opened, I did some quick checking. Here is what I found:

. Every new police officer (over 1,000 are expected this fiscal year) receives sixteen weeks of intensive training at the cost of over \$4000 per recruit (this includes salary during training).

. Over 2900 officers (out of 5100 on the force) will be enrolled, at no cost to them, in advanced education courses.

. Over 3000 officers will take specialized courses directly related to their work.

. There are more than seventy staff positions in the training division of the police department.

. The police department will spend almost 10% of its budget on the development and improvement of its staff.

All of this adds up to a substantial commitment to staff development. Industries, businesses, and the military have recognized the necessity for increasing investments in systematic in-house efforts to train and up-grade personnel. Without investigations or threats or major studies, the Metropolitan Police Department has moved willingly in that direction, especially in the last four years. The Commissioner, City Council and Congress have supported these increasing expenditures, as they should. A conservative estimate would be that the department will spend well over \$8 million in training this fiscal year.

Contrast this progress with the public schools. The public schools have always had to conduct in-service training. The problem was that another

## The police swiped it.

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er institution, the university, had recruited and trained people whom they produced and called teachers. School systems certified them, for the most part, and then had to re-train them. (Police departments seldom get college graduates although there have been some changes in that direction. They start, then, with recruits whose heads have not been filled with theoretical principles and little experience.)

In D.C., for years, in-service education had been carried on by supervisors--equivalent to police sergeants. There was little coordination of efforts, much duplication of energies, and little direction. Three years ago, as a result of a major recommendation of the Passow Report and the Executive Study Group, an office of staff development was established to coordinate existing in-service programs and develop a system-wide plan of training that would encompass new--as well as veteran--teachers and administrators. Congress approved \$100,000 for the first year. When a larger budget for the office was proposed in 1971, the superintendent, administration, Board of Education and the Commissioner--with remarkable unanimity, supported the request. But Councilman Joseph Yeldell, head of Council's Education Committee, cut the six professionals in the office back to a caretaker staff of three and distributed its existing funds to a number of pet projects he felt would change the schools. Commissioner Washington vetoed the Council's action, but the veto was over-

ridden. Congress, of course, unwilling to reverse the Council's cuts especially when it didn't have to take the blame, did not restore funds to the gutted office of staff development.

That Councilman Yeldell did not take a hard look at the 72-man staff in the Metropolitan Police Department's Training Division only proves, among other things, the school system's powerlessness to deal with an appointed local Council that chooses to reverse an elected Board of Education's priorities as well as the clout that the Police Department has upon the Hill.

The Council's action in 1970 was a severe setback to the public school's efforts to move in the direction of increased training for its professionals. As it stands now, for a staff of over 8500, the schools will spend this year less than 2% of its regular budget on staff training. And this money comes from destroying existing programs--such as the Urban Teacher Corps--and using their funds. The system now has no organized, continuing program for new teachers, principals or central office administrators. If experienced teachers wish to improve themselves, as most do, they must dig into their own pockets. Compare these conditions to training in the police department.

With the implementation of the Academic Achievement Plan (see Clark Plan), coordinated and long-term staff training is essential. Yet the budget sets aside peanuts--less than one day every two months for each teacher. A sum-

mer institute for over 250 volunteering teachers and principals, receiving no stipend, testifies to the deep interest and concern among staff for implementing the plan. Whether Council's action in 1970 will be more than a temporary setback, I don't know, but a number of observers agree that it has strangled a promising venture to establish some coordination and leadership. Most think that it will be some time before the school system again has the real consensus of Board, superintendent, and administration as well as important segments of the community in support of additional funds for staff training.

Locked into a tight, no-increase budget for 1972 and, presumably, the same for 1973, all one can do is hope that the school system can summon up the resolve it once had to direct more, admittedly scarce, resources toward staff training--especially if the Academic Achievement Plan is to be seriously pursued. If it cannot, then we can expect business as usual.

It is, indeed, sad that the school system so often attacked from both the right and the left must repair the damage done to them by short-sighted Council action. Better the Council should save its attacks for IBM rather than the public schools.

As it stands now, the Metropolitan Police Department is following the spirit of the Passow Report in staff development, while the schools watch from the sidelines how it should be done.

# Soup line at the Kennedy Center

JEAN LEWTON

"TO reach, you go to 27th and I Street, NW, across Virginia Avenue from the Watergate Development and follow the signs... Or you may approach E Street Expressway via Theodore Roosevelt Bridge Exit from the Whitehurst Freeway. Stay in right lane. If you will be coming by taxi, advise the driver to approach the building via New Hampshire Avenue, NW. Bear left up the hill... Enter building... the second entrance. If you have any further questions, please contact..."

I called the Madison Hotel but the publicity people were gone. The friendly switchboard operator said the phone had been ringing for days and especially in the last two or three hours--but she would be happy to ask the Bell Captain how to get to--that's right--the Kennedy Center. Instead, I dashed out and got a city map after consulting a neighbor whose instructions were even more difficult to comprehend than those of the Chicago-based Martin Janis public relations firm.

The occasion, which necessitated determining how to get inside the Kennedy Center instead of ducking my head when driving on Rock Creek Parkway as the road passes underneath it, was the press preview for the opening on August 9th of the three restaurants at the Kennedy Center--La Grande Scene, The Gallery, and The Promenade.

Patrick L. O'Malley, the self-made president of Canteen Corporation, had invited the entire Washington press corps. The Washington press corps, plus wives or free-loading friends, must have numbered some 1,000 strong and it was obvious from the long lines, the crush at drink and food tables, that the Washington press corps probably realized that they would never be able to afford the food at La Grande Scene--and they should devour as much of Chef Claude Bouchet's goodies as they could while it was free.

Thus, to describe what we ate is somewhat difficult, but it seemed to be wild stuffed boar, pastry shells filled with crab, thin-sliced



smoked salmon, an assortment of salads and uncracked lobster claws. Desert was various French pastries and coffee. Plates in hand, everyone stood in lines for refills, because the food was good.

O'Malley had great difficulty getting anyone to pay attention to the ceremony which consisted of introducing Roger Stevens to answer any questions about the Kennedy Center and offering his staff to answer questions about the restaurants. There were no questions.

O'Malley told us how wonderful it was to contemplate that Canteen Corporation only 20 years ago had been vending peanuts and now it was bringing the finest in "gourmet" eating to the Washington area. He also told us how thrilled he was to be "in this great city of Washington, this great state of Washington" (several 'right-ones' were shouted out, and some clenched fists raised) 'and in the District of Columbia.' The reporters continued eating.

Plates in hand we wandered through the three restaurants, attempting to rate them on ambience. Were they going to be one smile or four? The Promenade which is unpretentious--a jazzed

up cafeteria--has a great view of the Lincoln Memorial and moderately reasonable prices. The Gallery which adjoins La Grande Scene looked like a nice place to take a secretary to lunch when you didn't want anyone to see you. La Grande Scene is so ambiated that if one of the Louis's walked in he would feel right at home. Unfortunately some people felt the chandeliers might be more appropriate for Chagall's bathroom.

Probably the most pleasant place to eat will be at the outdoor tables on the north side of the building. After lunch you could stroll along the upper plaza and get a magnificent view of the city, Roosevelt Island, and Virginia. Probably lunch at The Promenade will be the best bargain. Eating at La Grande Scene wouldn't be a bargain at any hour. But for those people who enjoy dropping twenty dollars a piece a la carte, not including the wine, La Grande Scene is their kind of place.

I think our feeling about the entire affair, including the Kennedy Center itself, was most aptly phrased by one of those attending: "Never has so much been spent by so many for so few."

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# DC ARTS & ARTISTS

## ART



(Photos: Artists News Unlimited)

DC area artists are invited to participate in the Park Service's Art on the Mall program this summer, displaying their works every Sunday from one to five p.m. (weather permitting) by the Reflecting Pool. Sales are not allowed on park land but purchase arrangements may be discussed. For information call Ms. Reed at 426-6770.

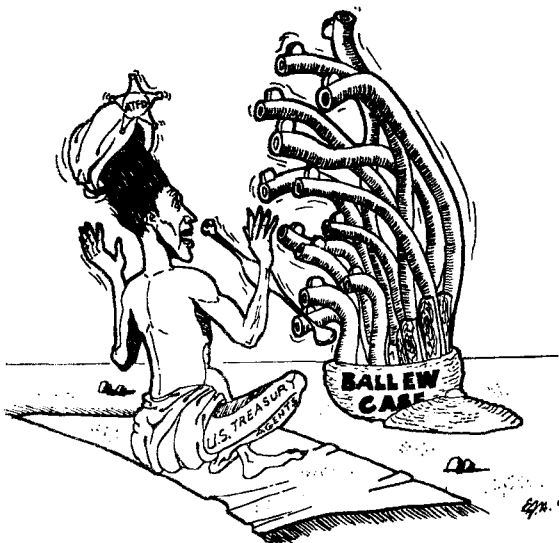
AT THE ART BARN: August 14: Sketching, any age. All day. Bring own material. . . August 21: Dorothy Fall.

## STAGE

THE BACK ALLEY THEATER opens on August 19 with an original show created by its Political Theatre Workshop: "Black Pepper." The show will run Thursday through Sunday through August 29. Show time is 8:30 p.m. General admission is \$3. Student price: \$2. Admission is at the door and no reservations are necessary. Back Alley is located at 1365 Kennedy NW, one block east of Carter Barron. Info: 723-2040.

"JESUS CHRIST -- LAWD TODAY!" continues at the New Theater of Washington through August 15 (Thurs & Fridays).

"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN" is holding down an indefinite run at Ford's Theater. Info: 347-6260.



"YOUR OWN THING," a mod-musical version of "Twelfth Night," continues at the Sylvan Theater through August 15. Info: 393-3420.

## PHOTO

ENTRIES in the photo competition sponsored by the Black Women's League (see the photo essay in our last issue) will continue at the National Collection of the Fine Arts through the end of the month.

## MUSIC

THERE are outdoor concerts at lunchtime in a different downtown park every weekday. To find out the schedule call 426-6700.



A NEW JAZZ CLUB, for traditional jazz fans and musicians, was organized last fall. It is now seeking new members. The Potomac River Jazz Club offers these membership benefits: a quarterly club newsletter (including instrument, tape, and record for sale notices), a roster of fellow old jazz enthusiasts, and reduced prices on Audiophile, Happy Jazz, Solo, G.H.B. and Jazzology records. Membership is \$7 a year. Send to Alan C. Webber, Secretary, Potomac River Jazz Club, 5818 Walton Rd., Bethesda, Md. 20034.

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## DRAMA

JEAN LEWTON

### Babes in Arms

CATHOLIC University has just finished its first summer season in their new Gilbert Hartke Theater. Usually, everyone connected with the department gravitates out to Olney Theater, but this summer a few of them stayed around and presented Under Milkwood and Babes In Arms. Whatever drawbacks there may have been in this choice of plays for the first summer season (Under Milkwood has been done to death by college drama departments and Babes In Arms book is only slightly sprightlier than Say Darling!) given a reasonably competent performance, it's a delight to attend a production in the new theater.

Unlike the Washington Theater Club, Ford's Theater and the forthcoming Kennedy Center, there are no bad seats--no posts, railings or light booths to peer around. The airconditioning cools evenly throughout, and the large thrust stage can become proscenium without sacrificing the necks of front row ticket holders. The acoustical engineer knew what he was about and the lightest of female voices reaches to the furthest corner of the back wall. No mikes to distort voice quality and resonance are needed as at the National Theater. The seats are obviously comfortable, even for thin ladies lacking nature's protective padding; and legroom between rows is ample. A woman with a broken leg was able to stretch out without bashing into the seat and sitter in front of her. The relatively small foyer of the Hartke theater has large windows giving a feeling of space and the non-ostentatious appointments are relaxing and inviting.

This is all to say that one of the nation's most formidably capable academic theatrical training groups finally has a theater to match

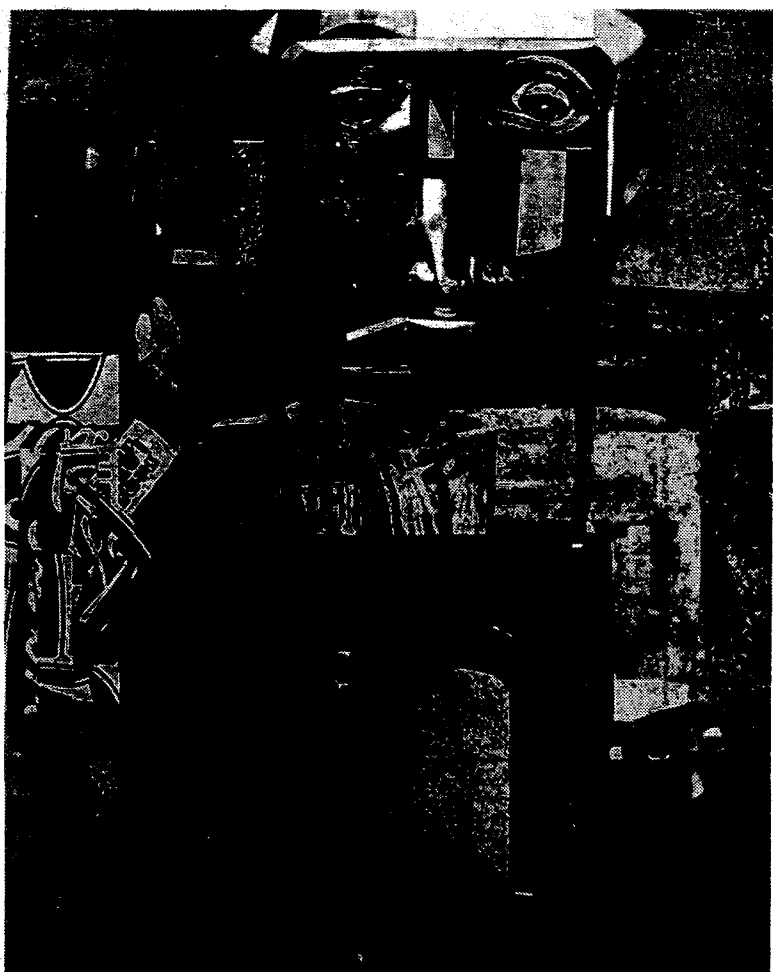
its performing quality. No theater, of course, is perfect. The Hartke theater probably is not James Waring's (the technical director) dream, but as a compromise (given the money) it's one sweet piece of building.

No building, however, can overcome the quality of its productions. If they're bad, they're bad and if they're---. Babes In Arms was about middling good. It was enjoyable--a pleasant way to spend an evening, but nothing to rave to mother about. Everyone on stage looked like they were having fun--lots of energy, easy dance numbers that were choreographed to look more difficult than they really were, pleasant young voices to sing some of the not very memorable songs, and enough verve to give the Majorie Morningstar genre plot some believability. Fortunately, Laurie Dunlap as Bunny came along in the second act with wham-bang renditions of "The Lady is a Tramp" and "Johnny One-Note" so that the musical could end to honestly enthusiastic applause.

The new season starts in October with six productions and a number of concert readings during the time when the theater would normally be dark. Plays that are being considered for the fall include School for Scandal, The Adding Machine, Anna Christie, Henry V, Charlie's Aunt, Antigone and the Inspector General, among others. Season subscription rates of \$18.00 and \$24.00 are available through September 20.

University theater is one of the best places to see plays that can't be done commercially elsewhere, and if the department is as consistently competent as Catholic's is, it's well worth the price of a ticket to attend, especially now that they have their new theater.





"Guitar Executive," 1967. "I focus on life as I see it; others see it in different ways... In this life no one is young or old; life is too short." (Charles M. Rafshoon Studio)



"Blue Interior," 1968. "The fantasy in my painting reflects things I see in real life... I am trying to find out what there is in me that is common to, or touches, other men." (Detail. Photo by Geoffrey Clements)

## Romare Beardon



"The Block," 1971. "Everything, even the tawdry has beauty; where a person is has nothing to do with beauty." (Shorewood Publishers)

"NOWADAYS one is like a whale who has to take and eat from the sea of one's experience, finding the paradoxes of the 20th century -- the good and the bad -- within oneself." The man who said this to me a few days ago, Romare Beardon, is a black man born in North Carolina some 56 years ago, who grew up first in the rural South, then in urban Pittsburgh. He studied art in New York and later abroad. While never relinquishing his commitment to painting, at one time he worked as a cartoonist, at another as a song writer and -- on and off since the 1940s -- as a case worker for the city of New York.

He has filtered the silt from a wide and winding river of experience and given us a vision of a black American life-style which is harmonious, melodic, even joyful, in spite of--perhaps even because of--its paradoxes, tawdriness and pain. His belief that the black American's way of life is perhaps the richest this country has produced is based on its tenacious affirmation of life.

Beardon's exhibit at the National Collection of Fine Arts through September 26, is aptly titled "The Prevalence of Ritual." What this represents to him is a cleansing process, a washing away and grinding down of the grime of daily life, an integration of its seemingly unrelated aspects and an assurance of continual renewal.

Romare Beardon's art reflects his attempt to harmonize and consolidate apparently disconnected and tenuous relationships, and his use of collage is ironically appropriate. He crops and strategically props flat fragments onto canvas. The result is a firmly structured visual environment, in which each element plays a special role, whose character would be altered were it transported anywhere else.

After a short flirtation with abstract expressionism in the 1950s, Beardon left non-representational painting because he felt it necessary to say something about the lives of black people, which (at the time) he thought might otherwise never be documented in museums. Moreover, for him "the artist's office demands that he project a vision of life and an experience of his heritage as he sees it."

In 1936 Beardon had joined the "306" group, one of the first informal associations of black artists. In 1963 he founded the Spiral Group, an organization of black artists who gathered to discuss their common problems, held a group show of paintings in black and white in 1965, and then dispersed as teaching positions outside of New York opened for its members.

Beardon co-authored *The Painters Mind* with Carl Holty in 1969. He is presently working on two books, one for children and another for adults, on the history of Afro-American art, under a grant from the Guggenheim Foundation.

When asked what advice he might have for a young black artist, Romare Beardon's reply is: "Do whatever sets you free. Art is not a discipline like that of soldiering or playing football. Do what you feel necessary, whether that demands working 16 hours a day or two. Conditions are not right, especially for blacks, but much that is creative has come out of the turmoil." Beardon and his work stand as witness to this statement.



## I love television

WHEN Jerry Lewis came to Washington recently to speak at the American Film Institute Theatre, AFI held a press conference the afternoon before the performance. I arrived at Lewis's suite and immediately sighed in disappointment. Television was there. When television is there, you can throw away your little pad and pencil and count the holes in the ceiling. Television always wins these little matches. It won this one easily.

The camera and the lights were surrounding Mr. Lewis so that, naturally, hardly anyone else in the room could even make eye contact with him. The TV reporter and his cameraman and, I think, a sound man, too, were right up front near Mr. Lewis and the rest of us were substantively relegated to inferior positions. After all, this is television! This is the big eye! Nobody gets in its way--except, of course, itself.

I recalled covering a new sculpture show at what was then the Washington Gallery of Modern Art a few years ago. Television was there, too--a daffy girl reporter with 16,000 lights (everything is filmed in color, now), stumbling all about the gallery, nearly knocking the sculptures in question flat on their faces, if they had faces. Great indignation was expressed at the fact that the gallery had not organized itself better to accommodate television, its attendant equipment and, of course, its daffy reporter (although the word "reporter" is so maligned by these persons that I think we should use another one to cover them). How about, "persons"?

At the Jerry Lewis conference, the TV person, who had his own mike, asked Jerry the predictably innocuous questions TV persons always ask. They won't use anything really controversial on the air so they have learned to ask questions with guaranteed safe answers. And yes, it is perfectly conceivable that, under the right circumstances, Jerry Lewis could indeed have been controversial. I still got some good quotes out of the afternoon because Lewis knows all about these TV persons and can answer their questions before they ask them. He is bright and shrewd enough to toss some hot copy here and there for the boys in the back with the pads and pencils.

But it was after the press conference had ended that the full irony of TV "actuality" was made truly graphic. Lewis had left the room and the TV person went up to the couch where Lewis had been sitting. He sat down and signalled the cameraman to being shooting and recording him. He proceeded to repeat some of the questions from the press conference--including at least one that he himself had not asked--so that these shots of him could be spliced into the newsfilm later, giving the impression that he'd had an exclusive interview with Mr. Lewis and that, in fact, Mr. Lewis had been talking just to him.

As if this were not enough, the TV person was inept even at his subterfuge. He kept flubbing the wording of the questions, and not in any way that looked spontaneous. Eventually the cameraman told him he might as well shut up because they had just run out of film.

"Ah!" I said to one of Lewis's UCLA students who'd accompanied him on the trip. "Ah, the reality of television!"

I am becoming less and less sure, though, that reality and television have anything much to do with one another. I am not even sure, any more, that we should expect them to. The thousands of people living in urban slums who said they thought the first trip to the moon was TV fakery seem somehow eminently sensible. Maybe it all might as well have been. Maybe Lee Harvey Oswald was a well-paid if ugly actor; maybe Richard Nixon is Ozzie Nelson making a comeback in a new comedy; maybe there really truly is a place called 'Green Acres' and its local pig is a great celebrity.

The resources of the technology make it almost impossible to resist the temptation to alter reality. Last spring I interviewed FCC Commissioner Nicholas Johnson for National Public Radio. I edited about 50 minutes of interview down to about 37. I took out a lot of Commissioner Johnson's 'ahems' and 'uhhs', I must admit, with the hope of making him sound better (though, in fact, he did sound good anyway. He usually does). I edited myself out of certain portions, so that the answers to two questions became one long answer to one--maybe somebody, hearing that, would say, "That Commissioner Johnson talks too much!" I lopped off several minutes at the beginning of the interview because they seemed dull, and so it began with the Commissioner plunged into the nitty gritty of the discussion. Was this an accurate record of our conversation? Was reality altered irreparably by these and other changes made in the otherwise faithful record of what was said? I decided that these questions were meaningless as long as I had managed to convey not so much the essence of what Commissioner Johnson said as the essence of Commissioner Johnson period.

I think, with moderate objectivity, that this was accomplished, but not without serious guilt feelings on my part and, I suspect, some displeasure on Commissioner Johnson's from the program that resulted.

And oh yes, the topic central to the program was, natch, reality and deception in broadcasting.

Anyway, I have written and written on this subject, without many conclusions I'll admit, except maybe that the people in television think far too little about it. Once a WTOP executive grumbled at me over the phone for something I had written about that station. He said it sounded like it was written by a mere viewer and not by somebody who knew TV from the inside. But wait a minute--who the hell is a better authority on television than the viewer? Why is a viewer so unimportant to TV people? Who should matter more? (We all know who does--the folks at Lipton Soups, for one.)

I love television and I will continue to love it, I am sure. If I am ever rich, I want a wall of little Sony color sets, a whole wall of them, maybe all tuned to the same channel, with Walter Cronkite in his grannyglasses peering out at me, or the funny funny cat who won't eat his dinner, or the longleggy girl who won't let the barber cut her boyfriend's hair. I love them all, in a way. I think that television is fun to look at.

But then--maybe--so was the Medusa.



## CLASSIFIEDS

RATES: 10 cents a word. Display rate: \$3 a column inch. Send copy and payment to DC Gazette, 109 8th St. NE, DC 20002

## SERVICES

PETE'S Paint Company. Interior & exterior painting. Free estimates. Call Mr. Pete, 779-7147.

## FOR RENT

FIVE bedroom house to rent by mature group; NW, September or October. Call Linda, 225-4065 or 544-1752 (p.m.)

## ARTS & CRAFTS

POTTERY CLASSES  
NEW STUDIO NOW OPEN ON 8TH ST. SE  
Classes are forming; 4 & 8 week sessions  
543-9152  
WORDEN ROBINSON ART POTTERY  
SALES: WHEELS-KILNS-CLAY

## FOR SALE

VOLVO, 1969, 142S, air-conditioning, am-tape, must sacrifice, make reasonable offer. 737-0421, 387-0740, 530-7337.

ISN'T it about time for this bumper sticker campaign? "Vacumn J. Edgar." Order today for your car, room, etc. 2/\$1. GC, Box 614, Doylestown, Pa. 18901.

VEGETARIAN bumper stickers: "Be Kind to Animals -- Don't Eat Them." 3/\$1. Prose-lytize! Freak out the carnivores. P.O. Box 39001, DC 20016.

UPHOLSTERING, draperies, slipcovers. Unlimited fabric selection. Free estimates in your home. Easy payment plan available. Call 299-5833.

## MISC.

SCHOLARSHIP needed for needy youth. \$500 will keep a youngster from having to drop out of the Capitol East Children's Center program. Interested persons please call 546-9111.

SERVAS needs hosts in the Washington area for travelers from around the world who stay 2 or 3 days. Contact Mr. or Mrs. Pierce Galt, 333-3317, if interested in this personal approach to better international relations.

MT. PLEASANT area free school needs teenage volunteers to work with young kids beginning in Sept. If interested call Walt: 332-7320.

THE CAPITOL East Children's Center is in urgent need of the following items: 2 adult rockers or easy chairs; 2 child's rockers; two doll's high chairs; dolls; used pots & pans; record players; stapler. If you have any of the above items in usable condition, please call 546-9111.

PAINTING, interior & exterior with best price in county. Free estimates. Call Pete Carbounis Paint Co. 779-7147.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## PROJECTS

A FIVE-PERSON collective, working out of offices at the Washington Peace Center, is researching and writing a book about the Mayday experience in Washington. The book project, affiliated with the WPC and the Institute for Policy Studies, is interviewing people involved in Mayday activities -- not only demonstrators, but federal employees, commuters, policemen, government officials, the press and anyone who was affected in any way by the Mayday events. The book focuses on new demonstration tactics, government repression, alternative plans and a chronology of events. Members of the collective are Mary Norris, Bob DeBaugh, Gil Friend, Mariette Wickes and Sue Herz. They need volunteers who can type, interview, do research and assorted clerical work in the office. Info: 234-8782.

## RECREATION

HERE ARE SOME of the hiking and biking trips planned in the coming weeks:

August 15: Early morning Towpath bike ride. Info: 232-3298.

August 18: Evening bike ride leaving the Towpath Cycle Shop at 6:45 p.m.

August 21-22: Cycling, hiking and swimming in Whiteoak Canyon and vicinity. Overnight at Nethers, Va. Info: Therese Lepine at 232-3298.

August 25: Evening bike ride. See Aug. 18.

August 28: 14-mile Shenandoah River canoe trip. Info: Carol Falk at 638-4913.

August 29: Early morning bike ride. Info: Therese Lepine at 232-3298.

Sept. 1: Evening bike ride. See Aug. 18.

Sept. 4-6: Labor Day weekend at Cape May. Info: Therese Lepine at 232-3298.

Sept. 12: Canoeing in Dike Marsh. Info: Alan Johnson, 462-5780.

BEACH DRIVE, between Morrow Drive and Joyce Road, is turned over to bicyclists every Sunday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

YOU CAN take a canal barge ride on Saturdays and Sundays. There's a charge for the trips that start at 30th St. NW between K & M. Info: 337-8080.

## GROUPS

REPRESENTATIVES OF nearly 40 area groups have formed the DC Community Coalition to be a regional group of the National People's Coalition for Peace and Justice. All meetings are open to those who wish to attend regularly. The DC Community Coalition is located at 917 15th NW, DC 20005. Phone: 737-8600.

THE DC WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS has new offices at 1424 K NW. Phone: 347-6532.

A LINDSAY FOR PRESIDENT OFFICE has been opened at 5375 Duke St. (#1220), Alexandria, Va. The office has buttons which proclaim "Switch and Fight" and has held several "John Lindsay pre-inaugural parties." Info: 751-7650.

## BENEFITS

THE DC Chapter of the Americans for Democratic Action will present a film night at the AFI Theater, L'Enfant Plaza on August 12 at 8 p.m. Features will be "The Long Walk" -- a documentary about American Indians -- and "Subversion," a film showing American attitudes towards the Japanese during World War II. Admission prices are \$4 for adults and \$2.50 for students. Info: Judy Carr at 546-6011.

## HEARINGS

THE CITY COUNCIL'S House and Urban Development Committee will hold public hearings on modifications to the third year urban renewal plans for the city. Hearings will take place at the Council chamber. Persons wishing to testify should contact Linda Henry at 638-2223. Oral statements will be limited to five minutes. The hearings are:

- Shaw: August 9 at 7:30 p.m.
- Downtown: August 13 at 10 a.m.
- H St. NE: August 16 at 7:30 p.m.
- 14th St. NW: August 17 at 7:30 p.m.

## MEETINGS

MYRA BARRER will be the guest speaker the next general meeting of the National Organization for Women on August 14 at the Cleveland Park Library, 3310 Conn. Ave. NW, at 10 a.m. Her topic will be: sources of information on women's issues. Ms. Barrer is the publisher of the newsletter Women Today. She has recently been appointed as a member of the Montgomery County Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women.

THERE will be a workshop on the Family Assistance Plan, sponsored by the DC Community Coalition, on August 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at All Souls Church, 16th & Harvard NW.

THE WASHINGTON PEACE CENTER board meets August 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the WPC, 2111 Fla. Ave. NW.

## DEMONSTRATIONS

THE QUAKER VIGIL in front of the White House continues 24 hours a day until the end of the war. Volunteers for 6 a.m. to noon should call Dick Hathaway at William Penn House, 543-5530.

## EXHIBITS

THE Museum of Natural History is currently featuring an 'insect zoo,' an exhibit that includes live bees, termites, cockroaches, mosquitoes and dragonfly nymphs. Also included are tarantulas and spiders spinning webs. Through Labor Day.

AN exhibit concerning black scientists is on view at the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, 2405 King Ave. SE, through Nov. 7.

## McLean Gardens

THE McLEAN GARDENS behemoth comes before the Zoning Commission for final application on September 22 at 10 a.m. in room 500 of the District Building. The 43 acre development which is being opposed by community groups, would include 2,210 residential units, a 700-room motel-hotel, a 600-bed hospital, 61,200 square feet of medical office space, 180,000 square feet of commercial space, 900,000 square feet of office space. The case number is 71-2. Interested persons or representatives of organizations may be heard at the public hearing. Written statements, in lieu of a personal appearance may be submitted for inclusion in the record. Info: Office of the Zoning Commission, Room 11A, District Building, 14th & E NW. 629-4426.

Opposition to the project centers around the eviction of present tenants, the undesirable density of the development, the true costs of the project in terms of new public services which will offset any increase in the tax base, and the pressure the development will create for more freeway construction.

## CLASSES

THE LOGAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 3rd & G NE, is offering a course in nursing assistance. This course qualifies one for employment in hospitals and nursing homes. Registered Nurses instruct all classes and closely supervise the practical hospital training. Registration will take place through August 13 and again in Sept. Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Hospital experience on Sundays beginning the end of October. You must complete 280 hours of study and hospital training to qualify for a certificate. Cost is \$7.50 and includes textbook and incidental costs. Info: Ms. Lee Bowen, 629-6167.

THE GI OFFICE is starting a week long training school that will teach interested people the skills they will need to staff a GI project. Info: GI Office, 1724 20th NW, DC 20009.

## SERVICES

PRETERM, the non-profit abortion clinic, has reduced its fee for pregnancy termination from \$200 to \$150. Preterm is located at 1726 Eye NW, DC 20006. 298-7300.

## LECTURES

ON August 14 at 3 p.m., Dr. Regenia Perry, Danforth Fellow at Yale University, will lecture on contemporary black art. At the Lecture Hall of the National Collection of Fine Arts.

## MISC.

THE Coffeehouse at Fabbrangon, 2158 Florida Ave. NW is open Saturday Aug. 14, 21 and 28th and Sept. 2nd., from 8:30 to 12. Coffees, teas and pastries available. Donations accepted. Folk music and good rap. Musicians needed. Info: 667-7829.





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## A new party organizes

ON Independence Day weekend in Albuquerque N.M. 250 representatives from 25 states and Washington D.C. met to attempt to establish a national third party. The meeting took place in a very tense local atmosphere due to severe rioting which has occurred several days before in the city. The local city fathers projecting the narrow view that our purpose was to further fan the flames of insurrection in their fair city, sought desperately to stop the meeting. In an atmosphere of total paranoia they caused the arrangements for the meeting (which had been made far in advance of the trouble) to be cancelled. In spite of these obstacles, the conference convened at the appointed time in a lovely Spanish style house with rambling grounds. Most of the participants stayed at the site. Since most meals were served on the grounds by loving volunteers, a fine community spirit was soon established. Settling down to the convention, it was immediately obvious that it was the consensus of the group to establish a new national political direction and to that end we would:

- 1) Write a draft platform explaining the principles of this party
- 2) Agree on a strategy to carry this to the people
- 3) Set up a mechanism to convene a national convention in November to affirm the platform and select a presidential and vice presidential candidate plus a shadow cabinet.
- 4) Exchange information and tactics to enable all states to achieve ballot status under the new party's name.

5) Select a name: Coalition Mechanics were established to organize local third party groups in those states where none exist, and to assist in building existing parties. The Peace and Freedom Party National Organizing Committee in Venice, Calif., and the New Party National Headquarters in DC have assumed primary responsibility for these activities.

Four committees were formed to help implement decisions made at Albuquerque: a convention committee, a finance committee, a fund-raising committee and a committee of search to seek out potential candidates.

The full text of the draft platform is being prepared by Gary Mahan, who can be reached at the office of the Independent New Mexico Party, 229 Truman NE, Suite A, Albuquerque, N.M. 87108 (505-256-7859).

Preliminary guidelines for the national convention include a site in the south central part of the U.S. Possible sites being checked out include New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana and Kentucky. The committee will propose a four day convention from Nov 25-28, possibly preceded by a day or two of workshops. Chairwoman of the convention committee is Donna Branch, 1137 E. Elm St., Tucson, Ariz. 85719 (602-623-9170)

The committee to search out candidates includes Charles Briody, 6594 Segovia Rd., #8 Goleta, Calif. 93017; and Judy Carnoy, 2378 Granner Drive, Menlo Park, Calif.

(Peace and Freedom Party Newsletter)



I'LL MISS YOU

## GROUPS

TWELVE grand juries in 7 cities have subpoenaed over 145 persons in political cases in the past few months. In response to the Nixon purges, a group has been formed that will serve as a clearinghouse for both lawyers and movement people who find themselves caught up in the grand jury net. The organization, called Non-Collaboration, grew out of a meeting between the National Lawyers Guild, the Center for Constitutional Rights, the Mayday Tribe, WITCH, Harrisburg Defense Committee, the Electric Ever-Expanding Number and the YIPs. Non-Collaboration has published a four-page tabloid on grand juries and how to deal with them, which can be obtained by writing the group at 588 9th Avenue, NYC NY 10036 or by calling 212-265-2500.

## VOLUNTEERS

THE BRETHREN VOLUNTEER SERVICE trains and places men and women in community projects throughout the country and parts of Europe. One of their duties is to provide men with alternative service jobs to meet the conscientious objection requirements. BVS is open to everyone interested in volunteering their time. Info: Church of the Brethren General Offices, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, Illinois 60120.

## STUDIES

THE federal government is investigating whether American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and the 24 operating companies of the Bell Telephone System unlawfully discriminate in employment. A letter circulated by Katherine A. Mazzaferri of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission asks specifically for information about the company's policies toward women in terms of recruitment and placement and promotion opportunity. People with tales to tell should write Ms. Mazzaferri, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, DC 20506.

THE RAIL FOUNDATION is planning a study of the potential for federal ownership of railroad rights of way, track, signal systems and other fixed facilities. The Foundation is attempting to raise \$200,000 to finance the study. Info: Rail Foundation, 417 NJ SE, DC 20003. 546-3992.

## FILMS

AMERICAN DOCUMENTARY FILMS has a variety of films available, which are easier to obtain during the summer slump. The films include "Selling of the Pentagon," a movie on the People's Peace Treaty, a 16-minute film on Hiroshima, the Common Cause TV special, "Speak Out on the War." For more information, write ADF at 336 W. 84 St. NYC NY 10024 or 379 Bay St., San Francisco, Calif. 94133.

## LITERATURE

MATERNAL INFORMATION SERVICES announces a new national quarterly newsletter, The Working Mother, which covers day care problems, unfair working hours for mothers, inequitable salaries, unfair taxes, news of funds for day care, job training, education and so forth. The yearly subscription is \$2.50 payable to Maternal Information Services, Suite 1E, 46 W. 96th St., NYC NY 10025.

THE WELFARE ADVOCATE'S HANDBOOK, a guide to setting up a welfare advocate bureau, is now available. It tells how to set up a bureau where welfare recipients can learn about the National Welfare Rights Organization as well as keep an eye on welfare officials. The booklet is 50¢ and can be obtained from Ray Schwartz, c/o The Door, P.O. Box 2022, San Diego, CA 92112.

## OUT NOW!

OUT NOW! Buttons, leaflets and posters for the Oct. 13 Moratorium and the Nov. 6 mass actions against the war can be obtained from NPAC: Leaflet, "Demonstrate Oct. 13 and Nov. 6," bulk rate one cent each; Buttons, "Out Now: Nov. 6," 25 cents each, 15-100, 20 cents, over 100, 10 cents; Poster for Oct. 13 and Nov. 6 listing all the cities in the action, 50 cents each, 10-50, 30 cents, 51-100, 15 cents, over 100, 10 cents; Stickers, 300 for \$1.25; Position papers: "Why Out Now" and "Mass Action Against the War," under five free, otherwise one cent each; Contingency leaflets: Women, Black, Gay, GIs and Vets, Labor, and La Raza contingents, under five free, otherwise one cent each; Also: April 24 commemorative buttons, "Enough!," designed by Jules Feiffer, 25 cents each. National Peace Action Coalition, 150 Fifth Ave., Suite 911, New York, N.Y. 10011. Contact Cathy Perkus, (212) 741-2018.



With the trial finally about to start, the Soledad Brothers Legal Defense team is on the verge of total bankruptcy. The outcome of the trial hangs in the balance. The Soledad Brothers have been under indictment since February 1970 (more than 18 months). The massive pre-trial assaults by the prosecution (changes of venue, gag rules, harassment, endless pre-trial hearings) have almost completely exhausted every penny raised by the defense.

The trial is now scheduled to start on August 9, 1971.

Defense attorneys expect it to last 5 months. Conservative estimates put the cost of the defense (expert witnesses, special investigators, travel expenses for witness interviews from all over the state, the bare necessities for supporting three attorneys and their staff during the trial, etc.) at \$125,000. The state will be spending many times this amount in its ruthless attempt to railroad the Soledad Brothers to the gas chamber. Your money is urgently needed to prevent a legal lynching. Please send your contribution immediately to:

### THE SOLEDAD BROTHERS LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

510 North Third Street  
San Jose, California 95112

I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ for the cause of justice in the Soledad Case.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send Soledad Button (75¢ minimum contribution)

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## The White Majority

The White Majority: Between Poverty and Affluence, edited by Louise Kapp Howe, Random House: Vintage; \$7.95/1.95

"They call my people the white lower-middle class these days. It is an ugly, ice-cold phrase..."

- Peter Hamill

WITH these words the first of 21 essays opens this collection. All I found myself saying was--me too, Pete. Except at least he seems to have a pretty good idea what he, what they, mean by "my people" and "lower-middle class." As does everyone else in this amazing book.

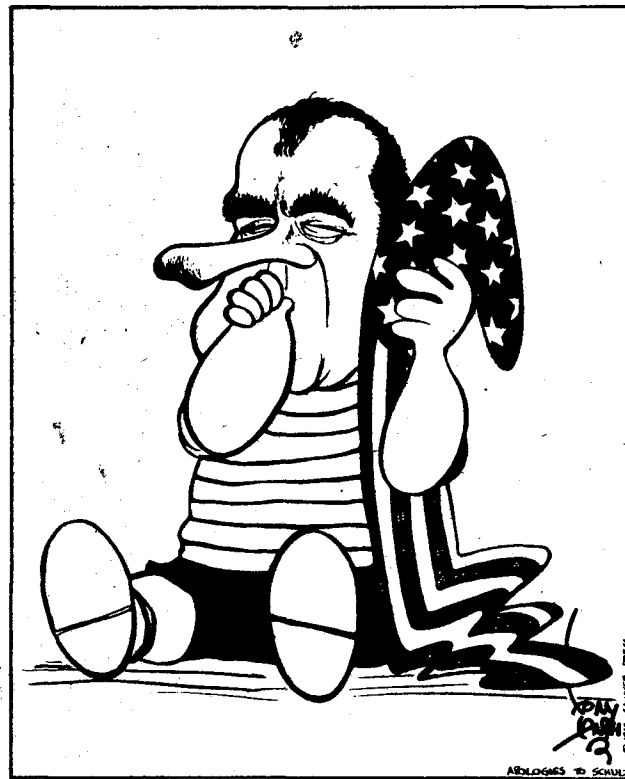
There are things missing. But except for the promise of the sub-title it doesn't look like those things were really intended to be in this book in the first place. Things like what ever happened to college educated employees treading water in the "Between Poverty and Affluence" group. Or small farmers caught in a similar dilemma. And also missing are essays by the many new and recent converts to the movement drawn from that vast group referred to in these essays variously as "white workers," "white ethnic," "working class and lower-middle class," "blue-collar," etc.

But there are great things here. Destruction of the 'myth of the 'middle-class' worker" that many students and others still seem to cling to, and which led the early Weathermen astray. As one writer, a union leader, puts it he "is kin to the Negro of folklore who 'lives in the slums but drives a big new Cadillac.' He's there, all right, but his numbers are grossly exaggerated." So are his political beliefs, his attitudes toward race, radicalism, and his own position, and especially his understanding of society and his position in it. He and she, especially she, (as the articles on "The Exploitation of Working Women" and "Blue-Collar Marriages and Families" illustrate) know they are getting the shaft. They don't always know where to place the blame, but they always have good reason for blaming.

There's also an article here by a Republican, for Republicans, in response to the "southern strategy." There's an article for all of us and any of us by a black revolutionary worker. There

THE cartoon at right is one of the first we ran by Tony Auth. We are sorry to say that it looks like it also going to be the last. Auth has been hired by the Philadelphia Inquirer, which should add some daylight to the Knight chain but leaves us feeling glum.

We also regret to report that Ron Cobb, another longtime regular in the Gazette, has turned to painting and is no longer drawing cartoons. Eric Matlen of Sawyer Press, which syndicated both Auth and Cobb, tells us that he doesn't know whether Cobb will return to cartooning or not. We still have a backlog of old Cobb cartoons that have not appeared in the Gazette before and will publish them until they run out. Readers who would like a permanent collection of Cobb's work, in either print or book form, should write Sawyer Press at P.O. Box 46-578, Los Angeles, Calif. 90046.

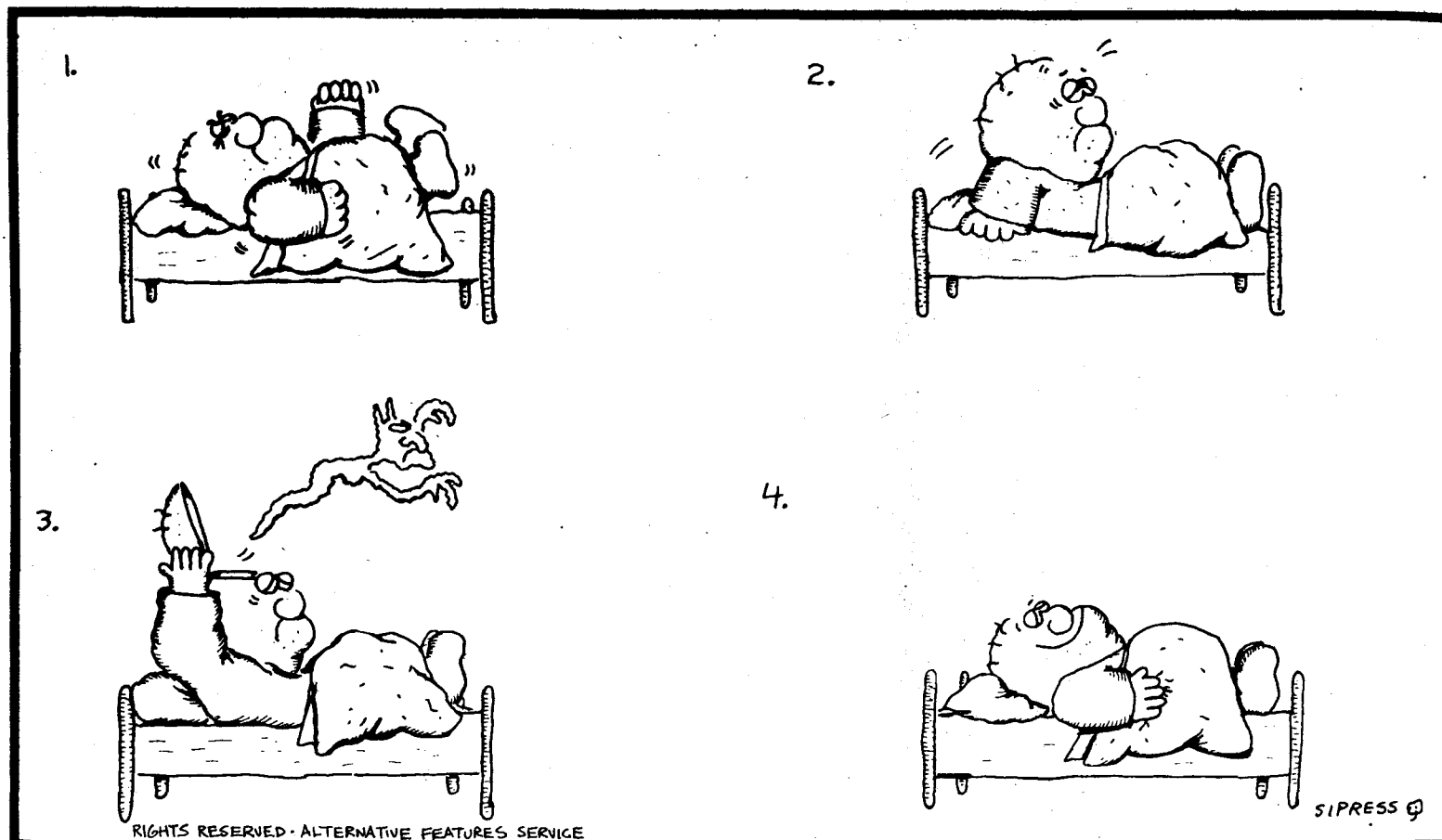


is even an article by a part time poet turned political scientist. But mostly there is plenty of food for thought whether we are part of that class "Between Poverty and Affluence," have left that class, or have never been close enough to that class to see it for what it really is: a bunch of human beings struggling to keep the little bit they have been allowed to get a hold on, a very tenuous hold, and a very little bit indeed.

In the words of the editor: "The problem... for all those trying to stave off the continued push to the right is how to appeal to the people of the white majority without retreating from the prior and still-priority commitment to the blacks and the poor. The belief that it can't be done rests on the assumption that race is the issue that concerns the majority of white Americans the most. But it is the opinion of almost all the contributors to this book that

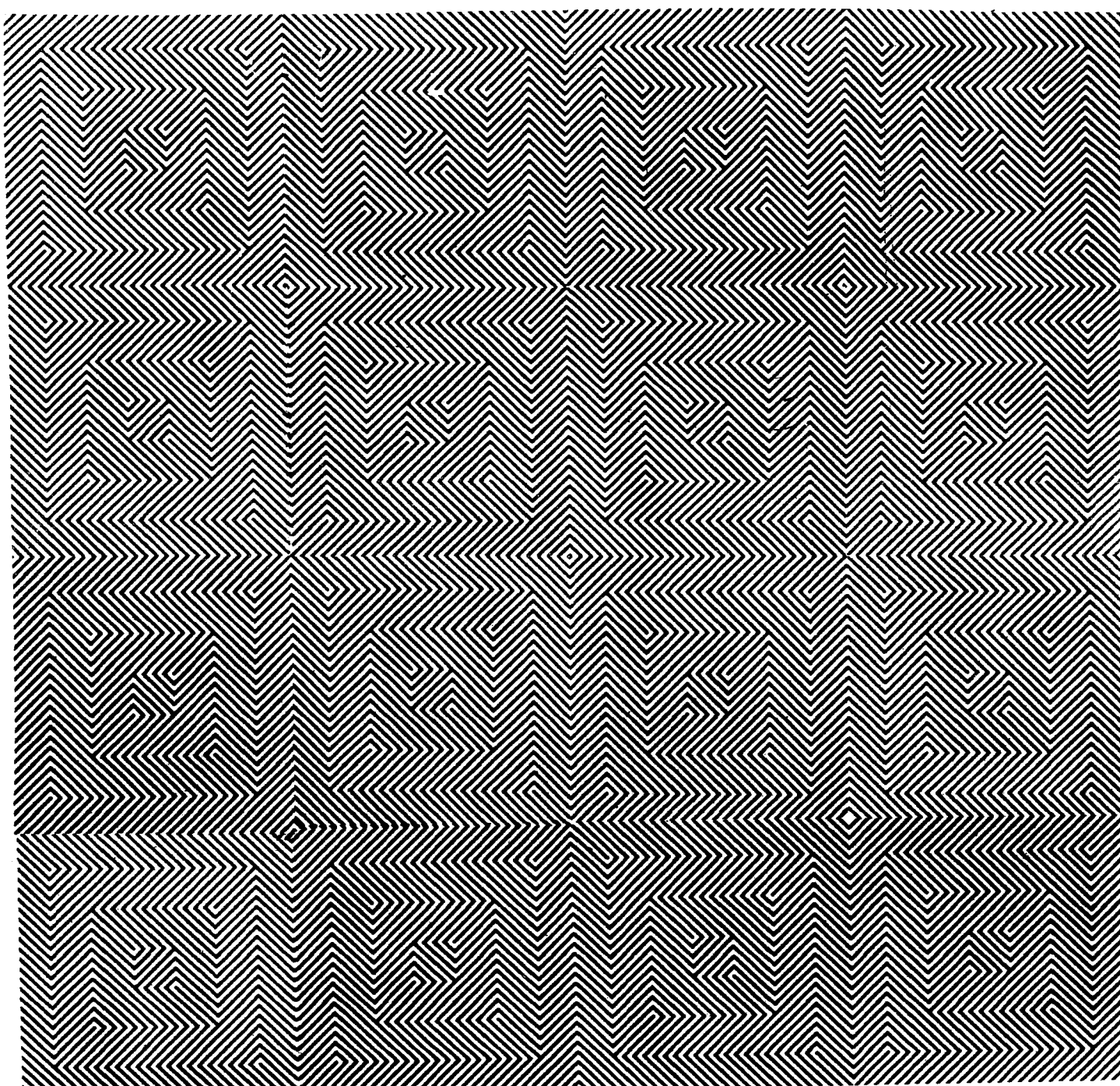
other issues are striking far closer to home: the estrangement of working-class youth from the affluent mainstream; the exploitation of women both in the factories and at home; the inadequacy of education and almost all the public services; the discontents of work; the feeling of powerlessness; and, most of all, the very real economic hardships faced by anyone living today between the boundaries of poverty and affluence." Right on time.

Michael Lally teaches creative writing at Trinity College. His work has been published in the Los Angeles Free Press, Great Speckled Bird, Iowa Review and Massachusetts Review, among others.

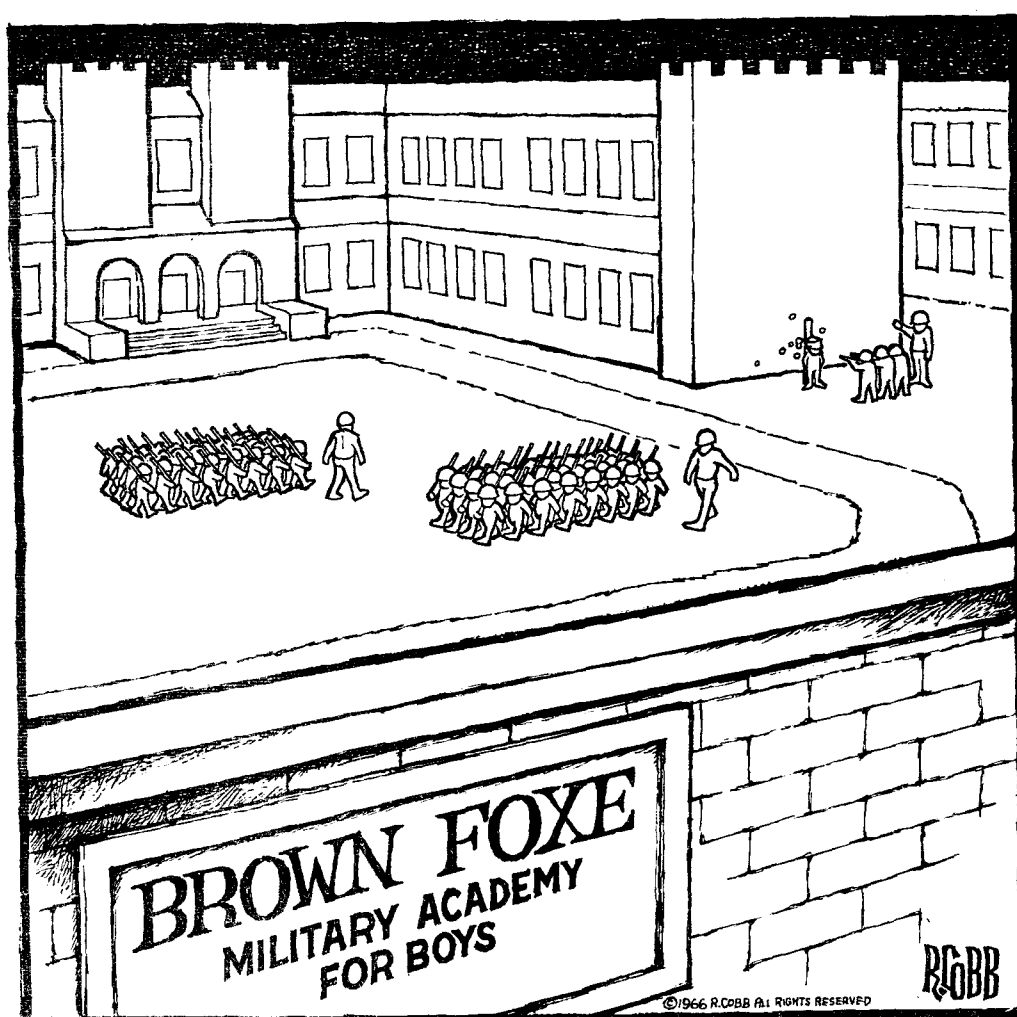




p.s.



The economy is in fine shape



...and now a news release

(New York City)--It's not often that people can experience the content of a book just by buying it, but that's what paperback bookbuyers have in store for themselves this summer.

After July 15th, when they stop at their local store to buy the paperback of the Alvin Toffler bestseller, *FUTURE SHOCK*, they will be faced with the delight--or dilemma--of choosing one of six different brilliantly colored covers of the same book.

Side by side in the special Bantam display carton will be a rainbow array of assorted *FUTURE SHOCKS*--in blue, yellow, tangerine, pink, lime, and white. For \$1.95 you can get the complete and unabridged edition, and in a choice of colors!

This latest innovation in paperback packaging confirms a Toffler conclusion that technology, far from restricting our individuality, multiplies our choices. He writes, "the entire thrust of the future carries away from standardization...Ironically, the people of the future may suffer not from an absence of choice, but from a paralyzing surfeit of it, a peculiarly super-industrial dilemma called "Overchoice."



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